



Founded July 24, 1968 and
designated a 501(c)(3) in July 1971

Truckee Donner Historical Society
P.O. Box 893
Truckee, CA 96160
530-582-0893
www.truckeehistory.org

ECHOES FROM THE PAST

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Dear Members

This month marks a transition of a first and a last. My first message to you as President comes to you in the last issue of *Echoes From the Past* with Heidi Sproat as editor. Beginning in 2013, Heidi created a gem of a quarterly newsletter, mining the research files and the minds of our researchers for quality historical articles. During her tenure, Heidi published serious pieces of historical research, news regarding activities of the Society, and some funny stories, all reported with professionalism and documented references. Heidi cheerfully communicated well that she wanted not only ideas, but written articles! Many of us tried to oblige. Heidi continues as a vital, active member of the society, continuing her work with digitizing photographic images and making them available on our website.

The Board Members of the Society each deserve their own words of praise:

Our Immediate Past President, Chaun Mortier, served the Society as President for six hard-working years. I am grateful for her example of leadership and initiative as our President. Hers will be a hard act to follow. Luckily for me, she will continue to serve on the Board as Immediate

DECEMBER 2018 ISSUE 4 VOLUME LII

Celebrating 50 years
1968 - 2018 !!!

Past President and as Corresponding Secretary. The Corresponding Secretary position entails fielding and directing the numerous emails we receive containing research or photograph requests. It seems a bit like being a 911 dispatcher, so I expect that Chaun will feel right at home in her new position.

Presidents' message continues on page 21

CALENDAR

Events will be posted online at our website

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- * Thank You - p. 3
- * Passing the Torch - p. 3
- * Donner Party Spinoffs - pp. 4-11
- * Updates from Prior *Echoes* - p. 12
 - Umqua River and **TRUCKEE** - p. 13
 - State line boundary - p. 14
 - Concrete Arrows and Beacons - p. 15
- * Floriston Mill, Inn and Hotel - p. 16
- * Johan Hultin Donation - p. 20
- * Old Jail Museum 2018 Visitors - p. 20

Echoes From The Past Newsletter

2018-2019 EXECUTIVE BOARD

President
[Katie Holley](#)
Vice President
 Greg Zirbel
Recording Secretary
 Patricia Featherstone
Corresponding Secretary
[Chaun Mortier](#)
Treasurer
 Catherine Holley

BOARD MEMBERS

Karl Pape | OPEN
Past President and Advisor to the Board
[Chaun Mortier](#)

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Community Memorial Garden, Greg Zirbel
Old Jail Museum Curator, Greg Zirbel

Special Group Tours
 Karl Pape

Old Timers' Picnic, [Chelsea Walterscheid](#)
Historic Photo Collection, [Chaun Mortier](#),
[Ron Rettig](#), [Dave DePuy](#)

SPRING *Publications*, Katie Holley

Research Library, [Barbara Czerwinski](#)

Collections Committee,
[Chaun Mortier](#)

Membership
 Patricia Featherstone

*Echoes From The Past, Newsletter Editor /
 Webmaster* [Heidi Sprout](#)

Notice to Members

In 2015, the TDHS Board of Directors approved a change in membership renewal to reflect the Society's bi-annual renewal schedule - January or July. For specific details, please visit our website.

TDHS Board of Directors will again be amending our Membership renewal schedule in 2019.

We hope you have been continuing to enjoy this quarterly newsletter. We realize that sometimes printed copies are much easier to grab, but we will continue to distribute our Newsletter electronically. As always, the newsletter will be readily available online and accessible on a quarterly basis. If you are a TDHS member, an email will be sent to you advising you of posting.

Editor's Note: This Newsletter is interactive - it is designed to be read *online* and contains links to relevant source material and in many cases, links to larger images for easier viewing.

TDHS does not accept responsibility for the accuracy of the information in these articles. TDHS retains the right to republish submitted material. Please contact TDHS for permission to use any content in this publication.

Truckee-Donner Historical Society ("TDHS") Board meetings are held on the fourth Thursday of each month at 2:30 p.m. at the Joseph Research Library at 10115 Donner Trail Road, Truckee.

*Please get involved with your
 Truckee-Donner Historical Society (TDHS).
 The only way we can offer programs and events is if YOU, as a
 volunteer, step up and get involved. TDHS is an all-volunteer,
 501(c)(3) organization so any and all donations are gratefully
 appreciated and tax deductible.
 Our mailing address is Truckee-Donner Historical Society,
 P.O. Box 893, Truckee, CA 96160.*

Echoes From The Past Newsletter

Kudos Heidi - and Thank You

By Patricia Featherstone

After five years as Editor of "*Echoes from the Past*", Heidi Sproat is stepping down. Although we will all miss her magical touch with the Newsletter, we appreciate that five years is a long editorial tenure.

Under Heidi's stewardship, "*Echoes*" has always been published in a timely way despite the Editor having to often remind, sometimes cajole, and occasionally even harangue the writers who had promised articles. As copy editor, I know just how hard Heidi has worked on these quarterly publications. Every three months I'd receive a draft to take home to proof read. Red pen in hand, (yes, red pen, for contrast you understand), I'd set to work.

After proof reading, Heidi and I would sit down together so she could input the changes we agreed should be made. It was always an enjoyable process. Some things made us laugh, for example: "Francis Bacon was a frier", and "more information can be found on the butterfly's' back sides". Some things made us groan: were we the only people who understood apostrophes? But mostly, we were impressed by the many interesting and well written articles submitted by our members.

Heidi herself is an excellent writer and proof reader, and is very skilled at converting submitted text to a Newsletter that is attractive, well formatted, and most importantly, fascinating to read.

It is very likely that "*Echoes from the Past*" will be different when the new editor takes the reins. This will be a good thing. A new format, if there is one, would reengage our members with the news of the Society's activities and reported research.

So, Heidi, thank you, thank you, thank you. (And on a personal note, it's always been great fun.)

And finally: while Heidi will no longer be the Newsletter's editor, you'll be pleased to know that she will continue as Webmaster.

Passing the Torch

As this will be my last issue as Editor of Truckee-Donner Historical Society's quarterly newsletter, *Echoes From the Past*, I wanted first to express my sincere appreciation to my colleagues. Were it not for their inquisitiveness and information challenges, many of the articles you've read through the past 20 issues would not have developed into actual pieces. So, my colleagues, especially Ron Rettig, thank you. And for my proofreading queen, a most emphatic thank you, Patricia Featherstone.

As for the challenging part, I have thoroughly enjoyed my time as Editor because it bestowed on me a responsibility to get it right the first time. Bitten by the historical bug helps, but it doesn't write and arrange articles. Researching a topic takes time, patience, and sometimes a fortitude to question and investigate just beyond what you think happened. Remember, we try to write about historical events that relate to the greater Truckee area. However, trying to research some topics is indeed challenging because of the lack of access of certain knowledge bases. On the other hand, we have been inordinately blessed with the recent addition of the early *Truckee Republican* newspaper issues from 1874 – 1923 on the California Digital Newspaper Collection site. This site has proved to be an invaluable resource. Google Books and some recent additions to the Internet Archive have also been very helpful.

The past five years have flown by and I have gained innumerable insights into the ice industry (March 2014), Truckee Lumber Company archival records (March 2017), Truckee earthquakes (September 2015), the 1960 Donner Ridge Fire (December 2015), Truckee Veterans Memorial Building application (September and December 2017), the schooner **TRUCKEE**'s 1897 demise (December 2015 and December 2017), concrete arrows and beacons (June 2018), and many more inviting subjects. If you haven't had a chance to see the articles, I invite you to pick just one and enjoy. You may find our past *Echoes* issues at this link.

I wish my successor to have as much fun as I have had, and continue to grow and learn about Truckee's fascinating history.

Respectfully, Heidi Sproat

Echoes From The Past Newsletter

Donner Party Spinoffs**By Barbara Czerwinski**

In preparation for submission to the California National Historical Landmark Commission via the form NPS 10-900 for historical landmark status of the Truckee Veterans Memorial Building (TVMB) and the Rocking Stone Tower (RST), Barbara Czerwinski and Heidi Sproat prepared a comprehensive list of **OTHER** references to the "Donner" name and any relationships attributed to the group over time. This list is itemized below. Please be aware that this list accompanied our initial submission to the Landmark Commission for landmark status, but we were advised to remove this section as it was "not-relevant" to the TVMB and RST. So, we include this information here for your reading pleasure.

Guide (discovered to date):

BGN = U.S. Board on Geographic Names
<http://geonames.usgs.gov/>

CHL = California Historical Landmarks

CPI = California Point of Interest

DMSP = Donner Memorial State Park, Truckee, CA

ECT = E Clampus Vitus Chief Truckee Chapter No.3691 Landmarks

EMC = E Clampus Vitus Meadow Lake/Henness Pass Chapter No. 10 Landmarks

NCHLC = Nevada County Historical Landmarks Commission

NEV = Nevada County Historical Points of Interest

NGW = Native Sons and Daughters of the Golden West

NHL = National Historic Landmarks

NHS = Nevada County Historical Society Landmarks

NRHP = National Register of Historic Places

TDHS = Truckee-Donner Historical Society

TDRPD = Truckee Donner Recreation & Park District

Categories:

Anthropological Studies

Archaeological Studies/Research

Cemeteries & Burial Sites

Collections

Landmarks

Notable Events

Notable Places

Patents

School or other buildings named

Settlements & Settlers

Trails

Websites

Other sources - World Cat or Google Books for the plethora of books and audio visual materials with "Donner" in the title. -

Anthropological Studies or Archaeological Studies/Research

The Donner Party tragic saga has inspired both legend and scholarship ever since the survivors were rescued from the Sierra largely credited to McGlashan reporting the survivors' stories. Google Search done using "anthropological archaeological studies donner party" found reports as recent as 2018.

+ Original Manuscripts by date with supporting newspaper articles in the TDHS Donner Party files. Many local Truckee residents did volunteer work on these studies.

Studies by date:

+Hardesty, Donald L. (1985, June 1). *Archaeology of the Donner Party Tragedy: The Murphy's Cabin Site*. Reno, NV: University of Nevada at Reno. Final report submitted to National Geographic Society, Grant 2814-84

+Lindstrom, Susan G. (1986, February). *An archaeologically and historically based rendition of*

Echoes From The Past Newsletter

Donner Spinoffs article continued from page 4

the Murphy Cabin: Donner Memorial State Park. Truckee, CA: Author. Prepared for Tahoe Sierra State Parks Association and Donner Memorial State Park.

+Lindstrom, Susan G. (1987, August 24). **An historical overview of Donner Memorial State Historic Park.** Truckee, CA: Author. Prepared for State of California Department of Parks and Recreation Cultural Heritage Section, Sacramento.

Grayson, Donald K. (1990, Autumn). **Donner Party deaths: a demographic assessment.** *Journal of Anthropological Research*, 46 (3), 223-242. <http://history.msu.edu/hst321/files/2010/07/grayson.pdf>

+Hardesty, Donald L. and Lindstrom, Susan (1990, December 31). **Archaeology of the Donner Family Camp.** Reno, NV: University of Nevada at Reno. Report prepared for the Tahoe National Forest, USDA Forest Service, Nevada City, California in fulfillment of Participant Agreement No.630154

McCurdy, Stephen A. (1994). **Epidemiology of disaster-The Donner Party (1846-1847).** *Western Journal of Medicine*, 160:338-342. <https://bit.ly/2rkB4r7>

Hardesty, Donald L. Hardesty, Donald L. (1997). **The archaeology of the Donner Party.** Reno, NV: University of Nevada Press. ISBN 0-87417-290-X

Osanna, Dan and Fitzgerald, Rick (2008). **High Sierra Crossing Museum Archaeological Survey.** http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=24351 Accessed November 27, 2016

Bloomer, William and Jaffke, Denise (2009). **A high Sierra nexus: hot obsidian data from Donner Memorial State Park.** *Papers on Northern California Archaeology, Society for California Archaeology*, Volume 21, 2009, pp. 109-115.

Brown, Daniel James (2010). **The indifferent stars above: the harrowing saga of a Donner Party.** NY: Harper Collins Publishers. ISBN 978-0-06-134811-2

Robbins, Gwen (2010) published a study about the Donner Party that was quickly retracted as not being VALID. See May 11, 2010 *Truckee Times* article by Frank X. Mullen, Jr. fmullen@rgj.com, "Researcher: Donner Party did resort to cannibalizing the dead." (Mr. Mullen is an expert on the Donner Party.)

Dixon, Kelly J., Schablitsky, Julie M., and Novak, Shannon A (Editors) (2011). **An archaeology of desperation: exploring the Donner Party's Alder Creek Camp.** Norman, OK: University of Oklahoma Press. ISBN 978-0-8061-4210-4 Notes: Book available in the Truckee Public Library, 979.437 ARC (Archaeology). File has a spinoff article from the *New Yorker* <https://bit.ly/2Ujr4M7> . Goodyear, Dana (2006). *American Chronicles: What happened at Alder Creek? Excavating the Donner Party.*

Grayson, Donald K. (2018). **Sex & death on the Western Emigrant Trail: a biology of three American tragedies.** Salt Lake City, UT: University of Utah Press. ISBN 9781607816010

Other Academic Venues

Adult Continuing Education Courses/Seminars

Degrees in Anthropology & Courses

Institute for Canine Forensics, John Grebenkemper, PhD

Society for Historical Archaeology

University Anthology Departments

Cemeteries & Burial Sites

Sierra Mountain Cemetery, ECT, 2001, McGlashan Section is a final resting place of four generations, Truckee, CA

Grave of Elitha Cumi Donner Wilder, CHL No.719, 12-02-1959, Elk Grove (Sacramento County), CA (Donner Party survivor). Also, the Elitha Donner Elementary School, a California Distinguished School, is located in Elk Grove, CA.

Donner Spinoffs article continued on page 6

¹ Any web links that contain **bit.ly** or **goo.gl** are shortened links for the reader's convenience.

Echoes From The Past Newsletter

Donner Spinoffs article continued from page 5

Collections

Charles Fayette McGlashan Butterfly Collection

www.tdrpd.org/home

<http://butterfly.ucdavis.edu/sites/donner>

<http://wolfweb.unr.edu/homepage/dcurtis/truckee/sh.html>

Charles Fayette McGlashan Papers, 1847-1931

www.oac.edlib.org

www.cdn.calisphere.org (Bancroft Library, University of California Berkeley)

Cultural Arts

Cultural Arts as spin-offs from the Donner Party 1846-47 experiences. The Donner Party was the most famous tragedy in Western Migration history.

Defined as ...expressions of creativity within a group of people.

Specific classifications follow:

Art Works/Paintings

Lawrence & Houseworth, 1866 stereograph view from foot of **Donner Lake, Nevada County** original print by Madelin Bohannon

George Mathis (1909-1977), **Emigrant train above Donner Lake** (four oxen pulling covered wagons with teamsters over Roller Pass). Notes: A print copy from the Joseph Collection hangs in the TDHS Joseph Research Library. Also, another Mathis George **emigrant train above Donner Lake** print at Donner Summit Historical Society Museum, Soda Springs, CA

Albert Bierstadt (1830-1902) **Donner Lake from the Summit** (1873); Notes: **The Donner Summit Heirloom**, Donner Summit Historical Society, March 2012, issue #43. Hendricks, Gordon (1973). **Albert Bierstadt: Painter of the American West**. New York: Harry A. Abrams, Inc., in association with the Amon Center Museum of Western Art. ISBN 0-8109-0151-X. An oversized book, donated to TDHS by Chaun Owens-Mortier, April 6, 2017. Has one of the earliest known pictures of Donner Lake.

Opening of Emigrant Trail Museum in 1962, Four oil paintings by eastern artist **Robert Lebron** commissioned by Don Johnson, a Ventura engineer, who himself visualized and described in detail to Lebron (McGlashan, N. 1982, **Sierra Heritage**). As of February 2018, paintings are in a climatized storage room of the Old Emigrant Trail Museum that was decommissioned in 2015.

Films/Movies (selected)

1960, KCRA Sacramento, **Black Harvest**, a documentary produced by Stan Atkinson; <https://goo.gl/Zp23ZE>

1991, **On the Trail of Tragedy: The Excavation of the Donner Party Site**, produced by Tahoe National Forest, USDA, Pacific Southwest Region, a Youtube video. Note: one of the original metal detectors used in the 1991 excavation was recently donated to TDHS by Arlene Amodei, one of the metal detector operators on the dig.

1992, **The Donner Party**: a documentary film written and directed by Ric Burns

1995, **Tamsen Donner: a woman's journey**. Tamsen Donner Film Project, Julie Ince Thompson, choreographer and performing artist, 58 Shepard Street, Cambridge, MA 02138. August 16, 1996 solo dance-theatre performance by Julie Ince Thompson, main tent, California Trail Days Donner Party Sesquicentennial, DMSP, Truckee, CA

2006, **Desperate Dreamers, The Story of the Donner Company of 1846**. Written by William N. Lindemann. California State Parks. http://www.parks.ca.gov/pages/503/files/Desperate_Dreamers_DonnerSP.pdf

2016, **The Hunger**, a new movie about the Donner Party with a walking dead twist

2017, a short movie based on the stage production of the **Donner Party: The Musical**, https://www.imdb.com/title/tt2993250/?ref_=fn_al_tt_1

2018, October, Truckee residents Greg Zirbel and Greg Palmer star in **Ghostober**, Haunted Road Trips, Travel Channel, an 8 minute story: <https://www.travelchannel.com/search/ghostober->

Echoes From The Past Newsletter

Donner Spinoffs continued from page 6

Folk Art

Nevada County Bicentennial Quilt, 42 squares of Nevada County history including the Donner Party and Donner Lake by the Scotch Broom in Nevada City, endorsed by the County Bicentennial Commission Quilters of Nevada County. The quilt was displayed in the DMSP "museum building" in July 1976. Today, the quilt hangs under a plexi-glass cover in the Nevada County Administrative Center Lobby, 950 Maidu Avenue, Nevada City, CA 95959.

Music (Songs)

Blair, Richard (2014). **The Streets of Truckee** ("Mr. McGlashan and the Donner Party"). Truckee, CA.

Fara, Frank (1974). **Donner Pass** (words and music). Hollywood, CA: Althouse Music Corp. © copyright, 1974, Frank Fara, Los Angeles, CA ; Note: License Agreement January 16, 1976 with the Truckee-Donner Historical Society. Sung at the June 6, 2018 DMSP Pioneer Monument Centennial celebration by the **Truckee Mountain Belles** choir group.

Gardner, Joe (1947). **The Old Donner Trail** (dedicated to the inspired and able leadership of the officials of the Nevada-California Old Donner Trail Association). Words by Joe Gardner, music by Marcella Williams. Published by Joe Gardner, Box 111, Truckee, CA, registered U.S. Copyright Office 1947, all rights reserved; Note: TDHS has an autographed copy. Presented at the 1946 DMSP Donner Party Centennial.

Leslie, Eileen M. (1952). **Song of the High Sierras**(sic), found in Kellenberger, Ferne S. (1952, Fall Travel Issue). **The Donner Pass-in the high Sierras** (sic), **The Highway Traveler**, pp 49-50.

Osborn, Alice (2018, Nov.). **Stepping into paradise**, song about the Donner Party. <Reverbnatin.com> (personal correspondence with the Donner Summit and Truckee-Donner Historical Societies). alice@aliceosborn.com, 9660-138 Falls of Neuse #294, Raleigh, NC 27615

Music Camp

Donner Mine Music Camp, founded in 1989, located on the Emigrant Trail used by the Donner Party Rescue Parties and 1900 site of 'A' Quartz Mining Claim, later to become the Zeibright Gold Mine. The Camp's purpose is to offer a summer week that encourages and stimulates interest and growth in young musicians. DMMC serves campers from the ages of 10-18 years old. <https://www.dmmc.org>

Photographic Collections

California Statewide Museum Collection Center, 4940 Lang Avenue, McClellan, CA 95652, 916-263-0805 email: SMCC.info@parks.ca.gov Notes: California's largest collection of artifacts, archival documents, and photographs.

Chico State University, Chico Digital Collection-Truckee, Donner Summit Area - Research only <http://archives.csuchico.edu>

Donner Summit Historical Society, Soda Springs, CA

Truckee-Donner Historical Society, John Corbett's Historic Photo Album

Waldroup, Heather (2014). "Hard To Reach: Anne Brigman, Mountaineering And Modernity In California" *Modernism/modernity* vol. 21 issue 2 pp.447-466. Open Access Journal. Version of Record Available From (www.muse.jhu.edu) Notes: Anne Brigman, modern photography in the Sierra Nevada are in permanent collections of the Oakland Museum, Eastman Kodak Museum and New York Art Museum. September 29, 2018 through January 27, 2019 the Nevada Museum of Art, Reno, has **Anne Brigman: A visionary in modern photography** exhibit. On the second Saturday of the month free admission for the day is offered. <https://www.nevadaart.org/art/exhibitions/anne-w-brigman/>

Donner Spinoffs article continues on page 8

Echoes From The Past Newsletter

Donner Spinoffs continued from page 7

Plays/Musicals

Donner (1970) by Robert Murray

The Donner Party (1972) based on the book by George Kethley, Book of Poetry

Mortal Decisions - a diary of the Donner Party, by Stu Richel, performed 1994, Reno Little Theatre

Devour the Snow, by Abe Polsky (1980), a play in two acts. 9780822203049. Notes: Adapted from **Anne Frank: The Diary of a Young Girl**, edited by Otto Frank. Winner of the 1956 Pulitzer Prize, Tony Award, Critics Circle Award, and virtually every other coveted prize of the theatre.

The Donner Party: a new American Musical, book and music by Eric Rockwell, and book and lyrics by Margaret Rose, world premier May 2017 Sacramento, CA. <https://bit.ly/2DXeLiP> ;

McGlashan, M. Nona (1980). **Tamsen** (a play). Auburn, CA: Author © 1980, Library of Congress Number 209-452 Notes: A one-hour, three-act play based on the choice that Tamsen Donner had to make in the final days of the Donner Party tragedy. Copy on file at the TDHS Joseph Research Library in the Donner Party/Emigrant section.

The First Wagons over the Sierra, August 16, 1996 performance at the California Trail Days Donner Party Sesquicentennial, DMSP, Truckee, CA.

The Children of the Donner Party, adapted from **Pioneer Children on the Journey West** by Dr. Emmy Werner, August 16, 1996 performance at the California Trail Days Donner Party Sesquicentennial, DMSP, Truckee, CA.

Stained Glass

Dona, Francesco (1985-1986). **The Donner Party State Memorial Proposal**. Murano-Venezia, Italy. Notes: The covering with smalti and golds for artistic decorative byzantine and modern monumental mosaics - the

composition with mosaics of the Donner Party State Memorial. Descendants of the James Reed family visited the artist in Italy for approval. Drawings and various governmental agencies reviews were provided. Bottom line was no funding or land site available for such a structure.

Websites

Daniel M. Rosen ©1996-2018

www.donnerpartydiary.com

History of Sangamon County, Illinois, Donner Party: Emigrant tragedy

<http://sangamoncountyhistory.org/wp/?p=63>

New light on the Donner Party by Kristin Johnson
<http://www.utahcrossroads.org>

Landmarks

Donner Camp Site NHL 61, 1929 (NGW 29A/NHS 60/ECM 60) (where the Donner Party Camp site tree stumps were threatened when a 1960 fire swept through the area. US Federal (?) employees removed the tree remains in the mid 1960s and then donated them to the California Donner Memorial State Park.) Tahoe National Forest, Truckee, CA

Donner Monument or Pioneer Monument (CHL No.134, 01-31-1934), Truckee (Nevada County), CA, (McGlashan donated the land and was a keynote speaker for the 1918 dedication ceremony.) Along the Nature Trail is the site of the Murphy Cabin. There you will find a large stone against which the Murphy family's 1846 cabin was erected. That stone contains a plaque with the names of all of the Donner Party members. Donner Camp plaque, NRHP #66000218. DMSP, Truckee, CA.

Donner Party Camp at Alder Creek Valley, ECT 96, 1996, Tahoe National Forest, Truckee, CA

Donner Party-Graves Cabin Site, NGW, 1919 and White Cross, TDHS, 2010, Truckee, CA (A memorial cross honoring the victims and survivors of the emigrant Donner Party of 1846-47 has stood in

Echoes From The Past Newsletter

Donner Spinoff article continues from page 8

Truckee since 1887, when the first cross marked the site of the cabin used by the Graves and Reed families during that infamous winter. The cross has since been moved to its present location on Donner Pass Road when Interstate 80 was constructed. It remains there today.)

Donner Summit Bridge Donner Lake, (Nevada County), CA (Overlooks site of the 1846-47 Donner Camps, and by McGlashan Point (BGN, 1986) (photo of dedication plaque) and George R. Stewart Peak (BGN, 1984). (McGlashan wrote the first book (1879) about the Donner Party. McGlashan's point is less than a half mile to the southeast. Stewart based his 1960 book, *Ordeal by hunger: the story of the Donner Party*, on McGlashan's work). The Lincoln Highway Association placed a monument depicting Travel Modes over Donner Summit. In 1986, the TDHS provided a dedication program for the McGlashan Point Plaque named in his memory by the "people of Truckee." Two members of the McGlashan family were presenters. The Stewart Peak does not have a plaque. In 2016, the Donner Summit Historical Society placed an interpretive sign at the trail base at the start of Pacific Crest Trail on the north side of Donner Pass Road (across from the old Sugar Bowl Academy). One needs to be a mountain goat to reach Stewart Peak. Donner Peak (elevation 7989 ft.), Placer County, is immediately south of the bridge and named for the Donner Party (James, George Wharton, *The Lake of the Sky* (1915), and does not have a marker.

Emigrant Trail on Coldstream Road, NGW 29C, September 14, 1929. It was here that the Donner Party missed the trail owing to the early snow, resulting in the tragedy. DMSP, Truckee, CA (McGlashan attended the 1929 dedication.)

Emigrant Trail in the Pioneer Days of California. The trail turned west at this point, NGW 29D, September 14, 1929, Truckee, CA, re-dedicated November 2014 (McGlashan attended the 1929 dedication.)

First Permanent Emigrant Trail Marker, TDHS and ECT, 2014, Truckee, CA, Newell, Oliver (1997). *Tail of the elephant: the emigrant experience on the Truckee Route of the California Trail 1844-1852*, page 131. Weddell and

McGlashan cited for Alder Creek trail to Donner Park Camp site identification.

Hooligan Rock, ECT 97, 1997, Truckee, CA (McGlashan used rocks from this site to build the 1906 retaining wall around the McGlashan Mansion, McGlashan (1977) and NCHLC (2010) p. 43.)

Rocking Stone, ECT 3/14, 1967; re-dedicated 1977, Truckee, CA

Sierra Sun-Bonanza (newspaper), ECT 9, 1973, Truckee, CA

Schallenberger Cabin Site, NEV 95-01, NCHL, August 8, 1995. The Cabin later provided shelter for the Donner Party Breen Family 1846-1847. DMSP, Truckee, CA

Tamsen & Elizabeth Donner, ECT 96, 1996, Tahoe National Forest, Truckee, CA

Western America Skisport Museum NEV 03, 1973, NCHLC and the Auburn Ski Club, Boreal Ridge Road, Truckee, CA.

Notable Events

C.F. McGlashan named to the California Newspaper Hall of Fame in 1968,

https://cal-press.wildapricot.org/hall-of-fame_cf-mcglashan
Accessed November 27, 2016

Notable Places (Selected)

Donner-Houghton House (NRHP No. 2158, 01-24-2002), San Jose (Santa Clara County), CA, removed July 7, 2013.

McGlashan Street, Sacramento, CA

Donner Lofts, San Jose, built on the site of the Donner-Houghton House in 2016.

Donner Pass Road, Truckee, CA

Donner Trail Road, Truckee, CA

Donner Spinoffs article continues on page 10

Echoes From The Past Newsletter

Donner Spinoffs article continued from page 9

McGlashan Patents - 9 listed in detail

Guiding Balloons, Patent # 152,145 (filed April 15, 1874); Google Books link; Patent Office link; patented June 16, 1874; <https://bit.ly/2Dfosdy> ¹

Railway Balloon and Electric Tramway and Truck, Patent # 247571, patented Sept. 27, 1881; <https://bit.ly/2QIGmli>

Railway Train Telegraph, Patent # 261370, patented July 18, 1882; <https://bit.ly/2DgifOz> ; McGlashan, C.F. (1882). (See Note below, this column.)

McGlashan's Train Telegraph: a certain method of preventing railroad collisions. Berkeley, CA: University of California, Bancroft Library, Charles Fayette McGlashan Papers, 1847-1931(p F855.7 M117).

Ice Palace, Patent # 565,175, patented Aug. 4, 1896; Patent Office link; <https://bit.ly/2NrPJOY>; <https://www.google.ch/patents/US565175> Accessed November 27, 2016; <https://www.pat2pdf.org/patents/pat0565175.pdf>

Snow shed construction, Patent US # 620,244, patented Feb. 28, 1899; <https://bit.ly/2QLlMAX>

Catapult for Throwing Projectiles, Patent # 629044, patented July 18, 1899; <https://bit.ly/2Dfj2PS>;

Spreading board for entomological specimens, Patent US #1172816, patented Feb. 22, 1916; <https://bit.ly/2QHRNjv>

Bird Lure, Patent # 1749497, patented March 4, 1930; <https://bit.ly/2pucmDX>

And at least 8 more patents for bird related feeders, lures, etc.

Note: See also this screenshot, from Preface to Donner Party book; patents by Charles Fayette McGlashan

Military

U.S.S. DONNER (LSD-20) was a Casa Grande-Class dock landing ship of the United States Navy, named for the

Sierra Nevada Donner Pass, where the Donner Party became snowbound in the winter of 1846-47. Launched 6 April 1945 and decommissioned 23 December 1970. March 2005 scrapped at the All Star Medals, Brownsville, TX. www.hullnumber.com/LSD-20 Accessed April 4, 2017, www.usssdonner.com.

School or other buildings named

Donner Trail Elementary 52755 Donner Pass Road, Kingvale, CA 95728

Settlements & Settlers

Marysville, California

Mary Aaron Museum, Marysville, CA. In this house, one of the early residences of Marysville, are a rosary, a tiny brocade coin purse, and an oval framed picture of the sad calm face of Mary (Murphy) Covillaud, one of the few survivors of the ill-fated Donner Party. (Sherr, Lynn and Kazickas, Jurate (1994). **Susan B. Anthony slept here**. NY: Times Books-Random House. ISBN 0-8129-2223-9)

In the fall of 1842, John A. Sutter leased the land that would later become the City of Marysville to Theodore Cordua. Cordua raised livestock on the land and in 1843 built a home and trading post. In 1844, Cordua obtained an additional seven leagues of land from the Mexican Government, adjacent to that leased from Sutter. Charles Covillaud, a former employee of Cordua, struck it rich in the gold fields and returned to buy one half of the Cordua Ranch in 1848. The other half was purchased by Michael C. Nye and William Foster in January of 1849. Nye and Foster, brothers-in-law to Covillaud's new wife Mary, then sold their interest to Covillaud. In October of that same year, Covillaud sold three-fourths of the ranch to Jose Ramirez, John Sampson and Theodore Sicard. During the Gold Rush, the ranch became a point of debarkation for riverboats from San Francisco and Sacramento filled with miners on their way to the dig sites. Due to this influx, in 1850, the four partners (Covillaud, Ramirez, Sampson, and

Donner Spinoffs article continues on page 11

Echoes From The Past Newsletter

Donner Spinoffs article continued from page 10

Sicard) hired French surveyor, Augustus Le Plongeon, to create a master plan for a town. Newly arrived attorney, Stephen J. Fields, purchased 65 lots and drew up a proper deed for the land being sold. Along with land development became government and the name **Marysville**. The name was chosen in deference to Covillaud's new wife, Mary Murphy. Marysville was incorporated by the new California legislature and the first mayor was elected in 1851. <https://maryaaronmuseum.com/about-marysville-california/> Accessed November 27, 2016.

The Mary Covillaud Elementary school in Marysville is named in her honor. The original school was designed by noted California architect Julia Morgan. Mary Murphy Covillaud is buried in the Marysville's historic Saint Joseph Catholic Cemetery. <https://bit.ly/2xltOd2>, Accessed February 16, 2017

Trails

Donner Camp Picnic Site and Interpretive Trail
<https://bit.ly/2xqrPJf>

Donner Memorial State Park
https://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=503

Annual Donner Party Hike

Since 1992, an annual Donner Party Hike is offered in October (2018 in September) within the confines of the Donner Summit area. It is a hike led by knowledgeable local historians to learn more about our emigrant history while enjoying spectacular scenery. Exploring this region on interpretive walks and hikes, you can almost hear the clip-clop of oxen and the rumble of wagon wheels, as countless emigrants scaled the mighty Sierra Nevada in search of a better life. Learn about the success of the Stephens Party; the tragic events the Donner Party endured; and the importance of the transcontinental railroad. <http://donnerpartyhike.com/>

Donner Lake Rim Trail

This is a Truckee Donner Land Trust volunteer project to build a trail encircling the peaks around Donner Lake. The Land Trust's mission is to preserve

and protect scenic and historic lands with high natural resource values in the Truckee Donner region. <http://tdlandtrust.org/>

Emigrant Trail

The Historic Donner Trail Committee

This trail organization assures the public's right to freely use public roads by providing trail maintenance, signage and an educational web-site. <http://www.historicdonnertrail.org/>

Other Donner Party Resources

Researcher's Guide to Sutter Fort's Collections of Donner Party Material *McGlashan's work* is noted as follows: The Bancroft Library also houses the C.F. McGlashan Papers 1847-1931, which include correspondence and research materials he used for his book, *The History of the Donner Party*, first published in 1879. McGlashan was a friend of Patty Reed, a Donner Party survivor. Besides this book, he wrote many articles on the subject, and was instrumental in the creation of the Donner Memorial near Truckee, California; <https://bit.ly/2QKtRw0>

References cited (for the foregoing Donner / McGlashan Spinoff section)

Allen, E. John B. (1993). *From skisport to skiing: one hundred years of an American sport*, 1840-1940. Amherst: the University of Massachusetts Press. ISBN 1-55849-047-7 Truckee pgs. 109/203, 135/210, Bill Berry 41/187, and Boreal 27

James, George Wharton (1915). *Lake of the sky: Lake Tahoe in the high sierras of California and Nevada*. <https://archive.org/details/lakeofskylaketah00jame>

McGlashan, M. Nona (1977). *Give me a mountain meadow: a biographical account of a remarkable man*. Fresno, CA: Valley Publishers. ISBN 0-913548-41-3

Nevada County Historical Society Bulletin Collection, Volume 1-67 (1944-2014). Nevada City, CA: Searls Library, 161 Nevada City Highway, 95959. There are 37 "Truckee" subjects in the index including the

Echoes From The Past Newsletter

Donner Spinoff article continues from page 11

Legend of the Snow Plant, "Truckee", and a Washoe Indian legend of the Rocking Stone of Truckee found in Volume 2, Number 5, 1949

Nevada County Historical Landmarks Commission (NCHLC) (2010, first revised edition). **Exploring Nevada County: An illustrated guide to local landmarks and historic sites.** Grass Valley, CA: Comstock Bonanza Press. ISBN 978-0-933994-30-0

Rubin, Saul (2005). **Northern California curiosities: quirky characters, roadside oddities & other offbeat stuff.** Guilford, Connecticut: The Globe Pequot Press Inc. ISBN 1555-4007 or 0-7627-2899-X, Pages 254-255 rocking stone

Sherr, Lynn and Kazickas, Jurate (1994). **Susan B. Anthony slept here.** NY: Times Books-Random House. ISBN 0-8129-2223-9

Trager, James S. (1992). **The People's Chronology** (Revised and updated edition). New York: Henry Holt and Company. ISBN 0-8050-1786-0

Historical Benchmarks

The Donner Party Tragedy of 1846-1847 has been used to benchmark other Sierra events such as the 1952 snowbound streamliner, the City of San Francisco (**Sacramento Bee** Editorial Cartoon, 1952, January 16; George Stewart 1960).

California Personalized (Vanity) License Plates seen in the Tahoe-Truckee area:

DONRPTY for Donner Party

DONRLKE for Donner Lake

DNR PTY for Donner Party

School children on tours of the Donner Memorial State Park often ask "Why do you call it a **party** when such bad things happened to the people?"

Caughey, John Walton (1940). **California.** New York: Prentice-Hall, Inc. © 1940, P-H, Inc.; Page 259 Donner Tragedy "It was the worst western tragedy since the

Yuma Massacre."

<http://www.library.arizona.edu/exhibits/desertdoc/massacre.htm>

Stewart, George R. (1960). **Donner Pass and those who crossed it.** (The story of the country made notable by the Stevens (Stephens) Party, the Donner Party, the Gold-hunters, and the railroad builders.) San Francisco, CA: The California Historical Society. © 1960 CHS, SF, CA Library of Congress Catalog Card No. 60-8367

Notes: Page 25, The Murphy cabin was built by utilizing the rock wall for one side, thus forming a kind of natural fireplace. The plaques name the members of the Donner Party.

Page 33, 1959 picture of "tall stumps at Alder Creek"

Page 63, the "bad" winters are remembered in the history and folk-tale of the pass. The first one to be recorded was that of 1846-47, the year of the Donner Party. Among its notable successors have been 1889-90, 1937-38, and 1951-52.

Page 71, stalled streamliner, January 13, 1952 ... the stranded passengers and crewmen were thus narrowly prevented from becoming another Donner Party.

Page 625 "The stark tragedy of the Donner Party inevitably attracted the special attention of writers and publishers." Over the years the most widely read account has been C.F. McGlashan....Stewart...etc.

Borden

Evaporated milk and hard biscuits, Gail Borden's portable foods patents, were prompted by the news of the Donner Party experience. The Donner event inspired Gail Borden to find ways to make foods that would be long-lasting and portable (Trager, 1992 p. 448). https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gail_Borden Accessed November 27, 2016. The People's Chronology (Revised and updated edition). New York: Henry Holt & Company. ISBN 0-8050-1786-0.

Institute for Canine Forensics,
<http://www.hhrdd.org/about.htm>

Echoes From The Past Newsletter

Updates from Past ECHOES Issues

By Heidi Sproat

A True 'ECHO' From the Past

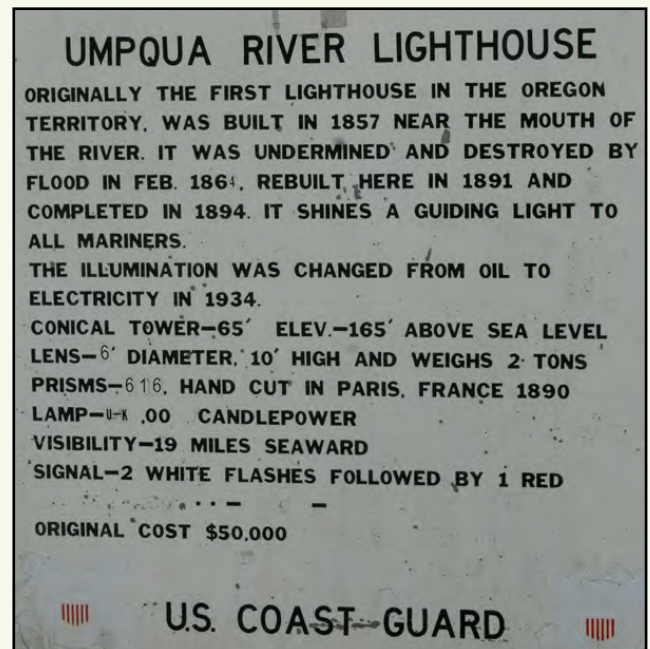
On a very grey, overcast, and rainy October 2018 day, my husband and I ventured north from Truckee to visit the westernmost lighthouse in the continental United States, Cape Blanco, near Port Orford, Oregon. We planned to take note of the coastal landscape and what kind of seamanship experiences might have been required to negotiate steam schooners along the Pacific coast in the late 1890s.

Our destination was the Umpqua River Lighthouse at Winchester Bay, Oregon. Why? I was determined to visit the site of the grounded schooner **TRUCKEE** which went ashore on the Umpqua River sandbar in a ferocious storm in mid-November 1897. [For details about that grounding, please see our earlier **ECHOES** newsletter from September 2015, pages 5, and 7, including photos.] Owned by the Truckee Lumber Company of San Francisco, and with a load of 342 tons, lumber laden, the steamer **TRUCKEE** was headed from Tillamook, Oregon, to San Francisco when it encountered a fierce storm.

In spite of the inclement weather, we thought you'd enjoy some of the pictures we managed to get of the area. After visiting the site of the **TRUCKEE's** destruction, is it any wonder that in such a fierce gale storm, any vessel could have survived maneuvering

around the Umpqua "bar"? One of my TDHS colleagues also found a related article from the **Los Angeles Herald** in the November 19, 1897 California Digital Newspaper Collection. This article is very similar to the other CDNC stories I cited in the initial article.

My personal visit to the Umpqua Bar validated what is likely to have occurred with the steamer **TRUCKEE** on that fateful evening and morning on 19 November 1897. Assuredly the configuration of the inlet has changed since 1897; however, even an alert, experienced Captain would have found it especially difficult to maneuver around the jutting sandbar in a fierce storm. Notably, reporting of the



Photos by the author/editor.



Echoes From The Past Newsletter

Schooner **TRUCKEE** article continued from page 13

incident was released from nearby Marshfield (Coos Bay area) as the Umpqua River is twenty miles **up** the coast from Marshfield and it had no wire communications at that time. It is amazing that all passengers - 10 crew and eight (?) passengers, one man, one woman and five children under the age of five - were rescued in spite of the **TRUCKEE's** grounding!

*Coastal bars are shallow banks formed by the movement of sand and sediments which build up at the seaward entrance of coastal rivers and lakes. They cause waves to become steeper and, in some cases breaking as they approach the bar.

You may click on each of the images herein about the Umpqua River Lighthouse to see full resolution images. [Google Drive link.](#)



State Line Between California and Nevada

In our last issue of **ECHOES**, we shared with our readers the **1854** map that was declared to be the 'official map' of California by the Legislature. [See this September 2018 link, p. 6 article.] Recall that we mentioned that this 1854 map showed a Lake Bigler (now Lake Tahoe) and that the state line ran differently in 1854 than it did in the later 1872 Von Schmidt Survey. On the Sierra College website, we note that the California-Nevada boundary seems to have been an argumentative point for some time - depending on which state you lived in. Take a look at the map on the Sierra College website to get an appreciation for how the state's boundary has changed over time.

As for the state's border markers, there are some still around, but they are difficult to find. If you read the Verdi 1980 National Register of Historic Places Inventory dealing with the 1872 state boundary marker, specifically Section 8, page 3, which details the significance of the marker. Check out the wikipedia articles as well, particularly the section on the California - Nevada Border dispute, May 2, 2009 article by Henry Breaun.



Photos courtesy of Ed Czerwinski, 2016

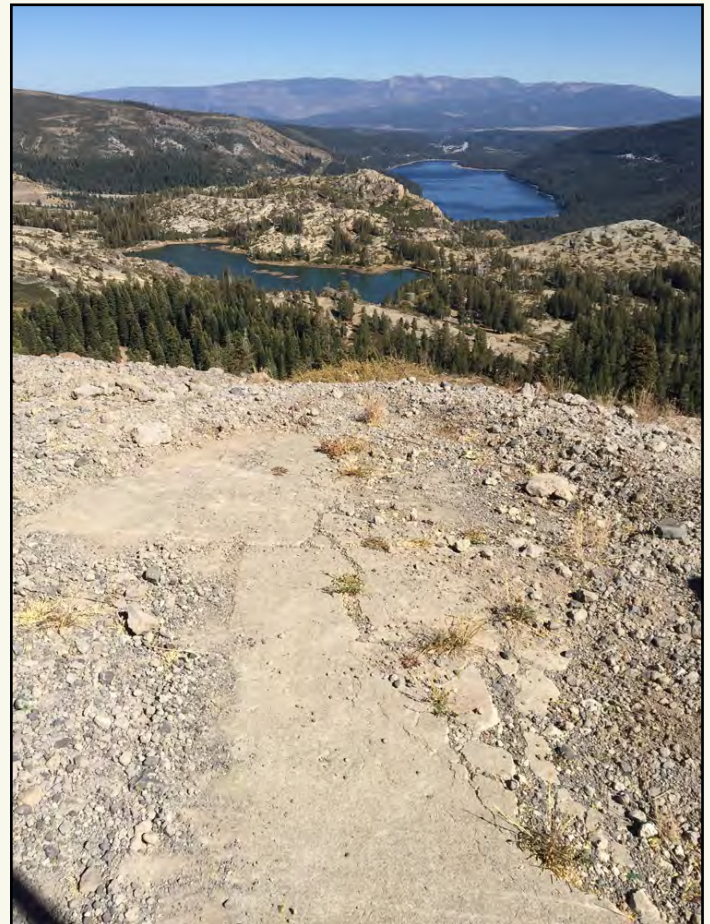
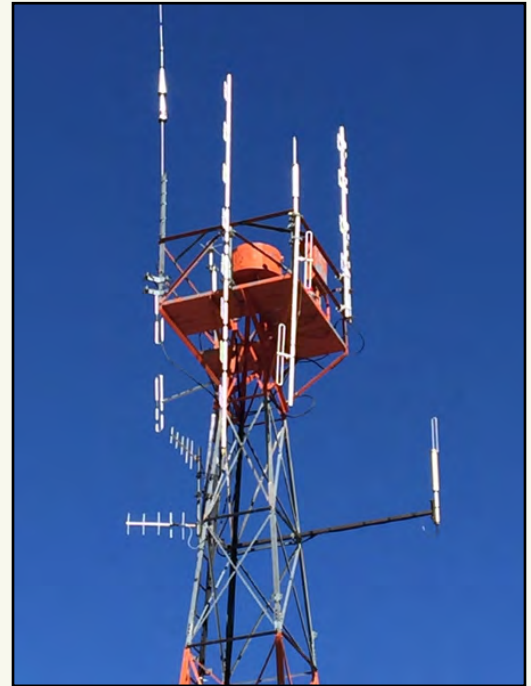
Concrete Arrows and Beacon

By Heidi Sproat

After writing my article on Concrete Arrows and Beacons in *ECHOES* June 2018, pp. 3-10 issue, I was determined to see an actual arrow and beacon on my own 'up close and personal.' On a gorgeous bluebird September day, a fellow historian colleague, Greg Palmer and I, decided to take a hike to the top of the Donner Ski Ranch to explore the concrete arrow and beacon. As our earlier article explains, these were erected to provide airmail pilots guidance over the Sierra Nevada - in fact all the way across the country. While it was a very steep ascent, the view was well worth it. And it was exciting to realize that we were standing on the very 'tools' those intrepid early navigators used to find their way across the mountains. Be sure to read about the Donner Summit Historical Society's drone investigations on this same spot. Amazing!



Photos courtesy of the author/editor.
Atop Donner Ski Ranch looking east over Donner Lake (in distance) and Lake Angela in left foreground.



(Top) Beacon atop Donner Ski Ranch.
(Below) What remains of the Concrete Arrow from airmail days.

Echoes From The Past Newsletter

Floriston Mill, Inn, and Hotel**By Heidi Sproat**

Browsing through a donation we found at the TDHS Old Jail Museum, in part donated by Ida Wilson and Lydia Kirby, colleague Ron Rettig noticed several spectacular photographs and information about the historic Floriston mill, Inn, and Hotel. There was an original leather key fob with the imprinted words **NEW FLORISTON HOTEL**, **FLORISTON, CAL.**, and 'if taken away, return by parcel post 2 cents.' On the reverse side it said W.W. Wilcox Mfg. Co., Chicago. There was also a book titled **THE PAPER MILL AT FLORISTON** by Florence Donnelly dated 1952, and apparently is #1 of *only* 11 copies.



So we wondered what the Floriston mill, Inn and Hotel actually looked like and what was the story behind the venues. We thought you might be interested as well.

The Floriston mill, built around the turn of the century, was once a huge paper mill whose workers were the town's inhabitants.

When built in 1900, the mill was the **largest** paper factory west of the Mississippi.¹ There were about 150 residents living in the first hotel. All of the lumber used in the town's construction came from the Sierra Nevada Wood and Lumber Company's Hobart Mills. Except by railroad, there was only one approach into Floriston, a swaying footbridge over the Truckee River. Donnelly's book said that the mill was a "splendid producer for the growing paper demand of Central and Southern California. The workers were happy, well paid and well housed. Living conditions were ideal." (Donnelly, p. 69).

Donnelly's book describes the Floriston Hotel and what it encompassed. "The mill hands had both good food and good accommodations. The hotel, an attractive three-story structure of sixty rooms, was built to replace the first hotel, the Floriston Inn, which was destroyed by fire in July 1914. It was soon replaced by a three-story wooden structure of 60 rooms. Lawns and gardens

surrounded the hotel. It and all the other buildings at Floriston, with the exception of the Southern Pacific depot, were the property of the paper company. On the townsite of 160 acres were forty-six cottages, three bunkhouses, a schoolhouse, hospital, a recreation hall, a store, the hotel, and the mill - talk about a thriving functional city! The mill consisted of thirty-four buildings, all of them brick construction except the warehouse and wood-room, a covered two and one-third acres of ground. There was available water power of 2,300 horsepower. Daily capacity of the mill was 22 tons of wrapping paper and 10 tons of tissue." (Donnelly, p. 68)



The large brick Floriston Paper Mill was opened in 1900 and processed "fir billets" harvested from the high country south of the Truckee River, from the western slopes of Mt. Rose east to the high ridge between Coldstream Valley, southwest of Truckee. The billets were transported from the Mt. Rose forests by means of Wooden V-flumes. (Victor Goodwin, retired Forester, undated, unpaginated article entitled **THE FLORISTON MILL**). Over the 30-year mill life, principal paper products included tissue paper wrapping for shipping California fruit, and the heavy manila butcher paper used as drying trays for raisin grapes. (NOW I understand why my father asked the butcher to wrap fresh cut meat in "butcher" paper. Never understood that as a little girl, but now it all makes sense.) The Floriston mill turned out good paper because of the efficient

Echoes From The Past Newsletter

Floriston article continues from page 16

machinery and excellent pulp, but also because the mill employees were exceptionally well skilled and of fine caliber.

A series of mergers affected the Floriston paper mill starting in 1911. By 1914, the company was known as the Crown-Willamette Paper Company and at the time, ranked as the **second largest paper manufacturer in the world at that time**. (Goodwin). By 1914, however, the company again merged and became the Crown-Zellerbach Corporation, then known as the Fibreboard Corporation. [Of additional interest in the local **Dogtown Editorial Quarterly**, a map on page 6 shows an area where ice harvesting occurred along the Truckee River and other streams.]

Even in 1922, when low water and resultant loss of power caused an increasing number of shutdowns, the company decided to operate the mill by electricity instead of by water power. (Donnelly, pp. 68-9; Goodwin).

The mill was eventually closed in 1928-1930 when the Crown-Zellerbach Paper Co. ceased to operate for two reasons. Operations ceased in part because the more modern mills in the Northwest could produce more tonnage in less time. The second reason the mill closed is that the mill experienced years of interstate battle because it polluted the Truckee River with refuse and residual acids. The mill was subject to the running levels of the Truckee River which fluctuated wildly over the years and even month to month in the same season. Various attempts to prevent polluting the river resulted in costly and desperate measures. Sadly, however, there was never a resolution. In fact, in an effort to get rid of the acid and pulp wastes, they were pumped to a settling pond across from the mill in hopes the waste would weather, evaporate and disappear. Unfortunately, that did not happen and the wastes eventually seeped through the subsurface strata and into the Truckee River. Even today the area is still known as Acid Flats.

As author Goodwin also noted "Worsening economic

conditions in 1930, at the onset of the Great Depression, brought the Floriston paper mill to its final shutdown on Christmas Eve, 1930." Goodwin concluded that in addition to the worsening economic conditions and the "imminent exhaustion" of timber stands, the "seething chorus of outrage from downstream Nevada communities" fighting against the Truckee River's pollution finally shut the mill down.

Notably, in the late 1930s, the Forest Service acquired many of the bricks from the 32 Floriston Mill's structures - some 40,000 by one reporting.² Several area structures were subsequently built using these **same** bricks. Nevada mines purchased most of the heavy timbers. Reclamation/recycling at its finest. (Goodwin).

In 1947, the remaining entire town of Floriston was purchased by Preston L. Wright of San Francisco (see ad below) in hopes of turning the area into housing opportunities for veterans. Unfortunately, in March 21, 1949, a blaze destroyed the Floriston Hotel which had been unoccupied since 1928 when the Floriston mill closed.

So the next time you're traveling on Interstate 80 east to Reno, take a look on the east side of the Truckee River in Floriston and see if you can spot any of the remaining foundations from the old Floriston Mill or Hotel. Even Google Maps appears to show some remaining foundations of the Mill long ago.



FLORISTON HOTEL contains 60 bedrooms in the main building and an annex with room for 75 additional guests. The lobby, bar, dining room and kitchen facilities are sufficiently large to accommodate 150 guests. It is expected that it will soon become the center of the social life of the community. **\$3,200 to \$3,950**

PRICES OF COTTAGES: From [redacted] for three room cottages and [redacted] for four room cottages. (Prices subject to change without notice.)

TERMS: A reasonable cash payment may be made and easy monthly payments arranged, if desired.

For Complete Details, Write or Telephone —

PRESTON L. WRIGHT
950 Franklin Street
SAN FRANCISCO 9, CALIFORNIA
Telephone TUxedo 5-5145 or
Floriston, California
Telephone No. 1

Echoes From The Past Newsletter

Floriston Mill article continued from page 17



FLR0018

(Left) Floriston and the mill, circa 1900. Interstate 80 now occupies the mill site.



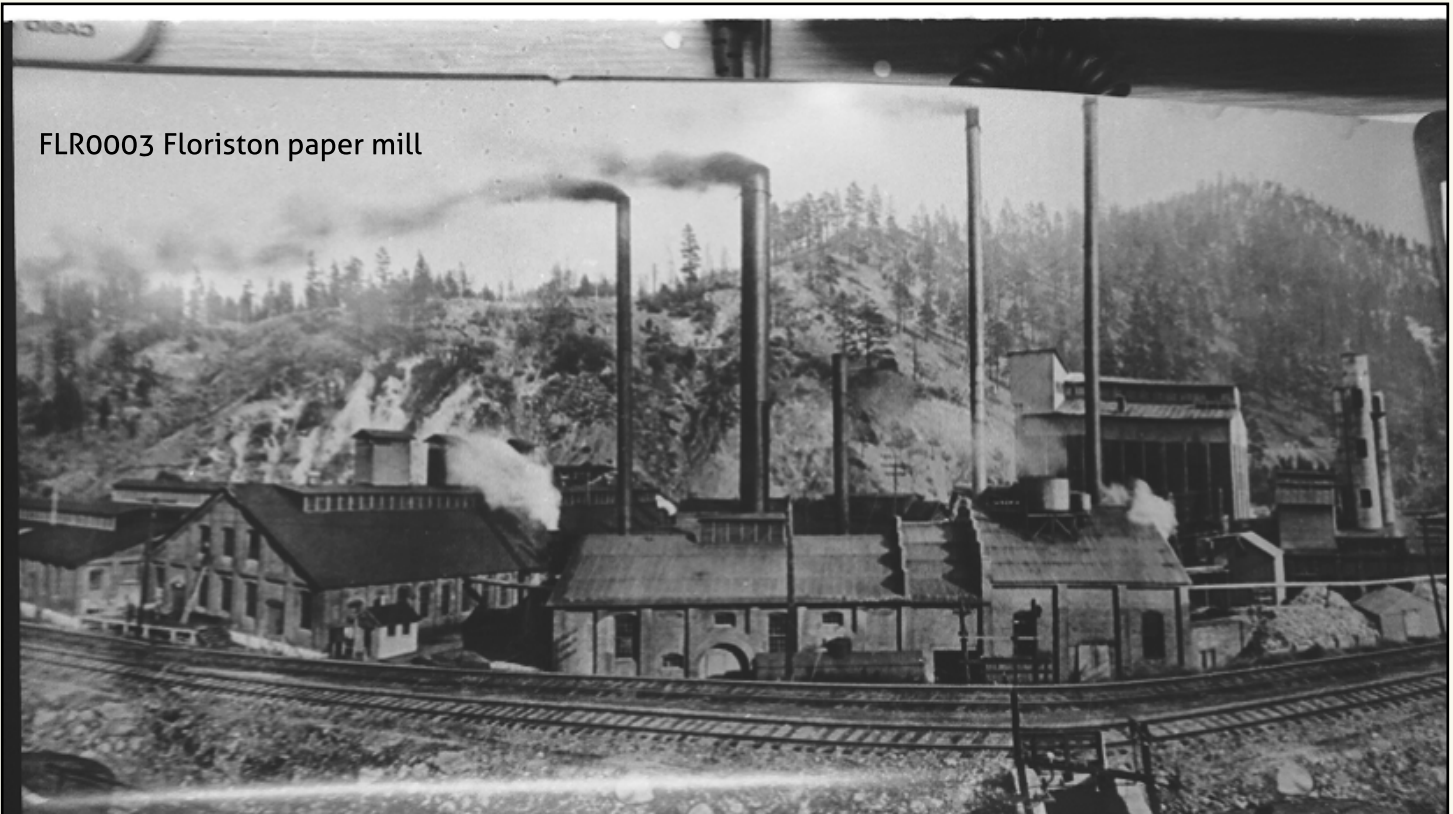
All three undated photographs above are from Floriston Mill donated collection; photographs *may be* from donor Wilson, or from a collection from Pacific Construction Company of San Francisco (formerly known as Pacific Bridge Company) which built the Floriston Paper Mill

Nov. 16, 2018: Story update. Apparently a propane explosion on November 15 leveled a house on Spruce Street, which is directly above the site of the old Mill, Inn, and Hotel. Here are two links to that story:
<https://mynews4.com/news/local/explosion-levels-destroys-a-floriston-home> *and*
<https://mynews4.com/news/local/investigation-leading-to-equipment-failure-as-cause-of-floriston-house-explosion>

Echoes From The Past Newsletter

Floriston article continues from page 18

Lastly, we thought you'd enjoy a two more Floriston images from our TDHS Image Collection.



FLR0003 Floriston paper mill



FLR0002 Floriston Hotel - RR Station

¹ See *Nevada State Journal* (Reno, NV) Aug. 3. 1899, p. 2.

² <https://bit.ly/2PqnvQC> , p. 75, Forest Service Report No. TY-01-1370.

Echoes From The Past Newsletter

Johan Hultin Donation

Truckee-Donner Historical Society has been extremely fortunate to receive several very valuable donations to our ever increasing collection of artifacts and images.

Our most recent donation was generously given by Johan Hultin and family and includes photographs, slides, negatives, proofs, a book, and a framed map that detail the findings of wagon wheels and tree stumps presumed to be Donner Party related. **Sierra Sun** published an article on this most recent donation.

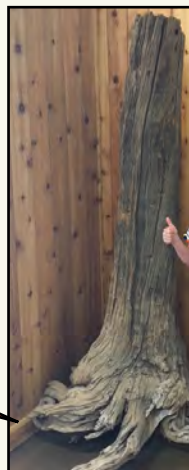
We now have a representative sample of these images available for viewing in our online Image Collection database. Keep your eyes open for this Hultin collection and additional images added to our every growing compilation. Note the Pioneer Monument in the background of the first mid 1960s photograph.



Truckee-Donner Historical Society, Hultin Collection



Truckee-Donner Historical Society, Hultin Collection (Gunvar Hultin standing)



This is presumed to be the same tree stump brought from Alder Creek Camp to the Donner Memorial State Park's Emigrant Trail Museum back in the mid to late 1960s. Today, this stump remains in the older facility, as the new Donner Memorial State Park Visitors Center opened in 2015.

(Left) Photo courtesy Ellen Swensen

Old Jail Museum 2018 Visitors

We thought you'd be interested in knowing some of our visitor statistics for the Old Jail Museum in 2018.

Visitors: 2,768 visitors

Number of organized tours: 11

Number of visitors from foreign lands: 14

Number of docents, including the Regulators who gave tours to the third graders: 16

- | | |
|---------------|-----------------------|
| Ron Rettig | Patricia Featherstone |
| Dennis Cook | Gina Solomon |
| Beverly Cook | Norm Justesen |
| Ron Grove | Peter Kolp |
| Judy DePuy | Greg Zirbel |
| Dave DePuy | John McCormick |
| Karl Pape | Richard "Toot" Joslin |
| Chaun Mortier | Steve Harris |

A very special thank you to Greg Zirbel, our new curator, who rearranged the Museum during the winter to follow the progression of the town of Truckee and the surrounding area.

And a special thanks to Steve Harris who jumped in when there were docent shortages.

In a nutshell, if the door to the Old Jail Museum was open - even if it wasn't a scheduled opening - there were visitors.

Echoes From The Past Newsletter

Presidents Message continued from page 1

Need IT support? Greg makes it happen. Want office furniture re-arranged in the research cabin? Greg moves it, no problem. Are people (such as the new President) running around with their hair on fire (colloquially speaking)? Greg is the calming influence that settles things back down. Greg also is the curator of collections and exhibits at the Old Jail Museum, and oversees care and maintenance of the Community Memorial Garden.

Patricia Featherstone assiduously continues her role this year as Recording Secretary, and has taken on the responsibilities of Membership Chair. These responsibilities are in addition to her serving as a docent at the Old Jail Museum both for summer visitors and for school tours, and to serving for two years on the Nomination and Election Committee. Patricia contributes in many other behind-the-scenes ways, by proofreading the newsletter, editing policies and procedures, and offering good counsel.

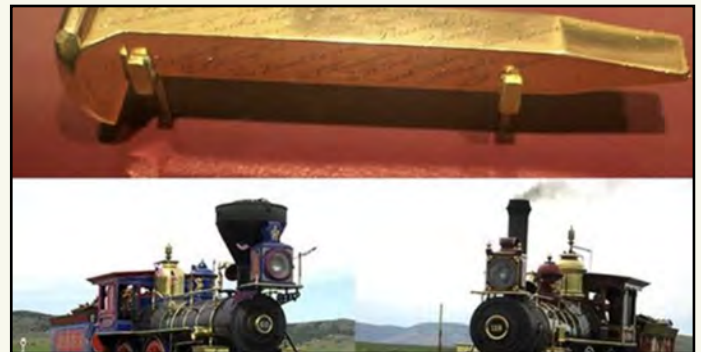
Our Treasurer this year is Catherine Holley, of Tahoe Basin Bookkeeping. We are so happy to have someone with years of bookkeeping experience to be in charge of our financial recordkeeping! Welcome to the team, Catherine.

We have one Board Member at Large this year, former Vice President Karl Pape. You may know Karl as our map maven, or as the

undertaker (his persona when in costume at the Old Jail Museum). Karl is our Old Jail Museum docent coordinator and scheduler, and personally covers most of the hours that the museum is open during the summer, volunteering about 12 hours per week.

The common denominator among the Board members is a desire to fulfill the goals of our mission: to discover, procure, and preserve whatever may relate to the Native people of this region or to the natural, civil, literary, and ecclesiastical history of the Town of Truckee and surrounding area.

Thank you for entrusting us with advancing this work as your Board.



If you haven't been following the information about the upcoming Sesquicentennial Celebration for Truckee in 2019, please see our Donner Summit-Truckee Golden Spike Celebration on our TDHS facebook page for more information.

Echoes From The Past Newsletter



So what is this "QR CODE" or the squirrley-looking black & white icon
Some of you may be familiar with these strange looking icons. The black & white cross-hatched icon represents our new

website at truckeehistory.org. If you have a "smart" phone or iPad with a 'QR Reader,' all you need do is scan your device OVER the icon and you should be directed to our website. And what would one use this for? On any printed material, you could 'scan any QR code' and be taken to their website immediately. In our case, you can go immediately to our truckeehistory.org website and see the **Calendar** for upcoming events.

Truckee-Donner Historical Society
P.O. Box 893 · Truckee, CA · 96160
Address Service Requested

Contact us at:

(530) 582-0893

www.truckeehistory.org

Join our Facebook page!

**Celebrating 50 years
1968 - 2018 !!!**

**MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL
CHANGES COMING IN 2019**



Membership Application | Renewal Form

I /WE want to JOIN or RENEW (circle one) MY/OUR MEMBERSHIP in the
TRUCKEE-DONNER HISTORICAL SOCIETY

www.truckeehistory.org | info@truckeehistory.org | (530) 582-0893

Make checks payable to TDHS | Mail to: P.O. Box 893 Truckee, CA 96160|

Go Paperless* (check here) () to receive eBill Renewals** and e-editions of our newsletters

* (a valid email address is required) ** Pay by Check or Credit Card (you choose your payment method)

For Renewals: Check if there are any changes below: () If known, your existing renewal month: _____

MEMBERSHIP NAME: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____ CITY, STATE, ZIP: _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

HOME PHONE: _____ CELL PHONE: _____

Enclosed please find my check for: **MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES** (please check one)

Individual \$20____ Family \$30____ Business \$40____

Non-Profit Organization \$25____ Sustaining \$75____ Contributing \$100____ Other Donation \$____

SPECIAL DONATIONS: Gift Membership \$____ In the Name of _____

MEMORIAL DONATION \$____ In Honor of _____

Other \$____ () Old Jail Museum () Joseph Research Library () _____

Contact me on ways I can volunteer () Are you willing to docent at the Old Jail Museum? Yes / No

Areas of Special Interest and/or Comments/Suggestions:

© Photographer Name