

It's an unusual family that hath neither a lady of the evening or thief.

Isn't
Genealogy Fun!

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June 2010

Preparing, protecting, preserving your family Treasures

Many of us possess family heirlooms. They may be old family photographs or a marriage certificate or a handmade quilt that is more than 100 years old. Whatever the object(s), they are handed down from generation to generation and are cherished by each new recipient.

What happens if your home is flooded or in a hurricane or tornado or other disaster? Even a simple burst water pipe or a few roof shingles blown off in a thunderstorm can result in damage to all sorts of things, including heirlooms.

No one likes to think about disasters, whether natural or man made, but thinking ahead and preparing, together with knowledge about first steps, can save those family treasures from ruin.

The Library of Congress has a great webpage offering simple instructions and links to more in-depth information regarding preserving family documents. The information provided is often simple but contains a lot of common sense. For instance, the section on where to store heirlooms states:

- ❖ The single most important decision you can make to mitigate damage from a future disaster is selecting an appropriate location for your most valued family treasures. Avoid basement and attic when possible. Consider the safest location based on the most likely threat; if flooding, avoid the basement; if tornado, avoid

attics and outside walls. Are there certain times of the year when you are most vulnerable? Can you store offsite during those periods?

- ❖ Another consideration is small disasters and prevention. Don't store valuable materials under water pipes and keep materials off the floor. If you must store items in the basement, don't put materials against an outside wall that may let in dampness. Small leaks that go undetected for a period of time can cause irretrievable damage through mold growth and staining. Be sure to check your storage at least twice a year to be sure there are no problems.

This is but one example of the common sense advice offered. You will also find links to more comprehensive information for many topics. It also contains information about handling damage AFTER a disaster, such as water, smoke, and soot damage.

"Preparing, Protecting, Preserving Family Treasures" may be found at <http://www.locweb.loc.gov/preserv/familytreasures/index.html>.

Don't your family heirlooms deserve some protection?

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MESA DWELLERS

Biography of Board and Committee Members of Mesa County Genealogical Society



Caley Gredig – Society Webmaster

Caley usually comes to our meetings and brings her mother, Elizabeth. However, at a recent noon meeting Caley brought her mother and one of her baby lambs along. (You just never know who might show up at our meetings!)

Caley Annine Gredig was born in [redacted] at Glenwood Springs, Colorado to John Jacob and Elizabeth Gredig. She was named after her mother's grandmother whose maiden name was Caley. Her father's grandmother was named Annine, which she has discovered is a diminutive of Antje.

Caley has one brother and two sisters. She grew up in Basalt, Colorado and attended Basalt High School through her sophomore year and then transferred to Aspen High School where she graduated. She was involved in gymnastics and was a cheerleader.

She has never married, but among her three siblings there have been a total of eleven marriages and she doesn't want to become another statistic in the family.

She completed one year at University of Kansas, and while there, she developed asthma and could not return. She also studied at Colorado Mountain College (CMC) in Glenwood Springs and her final major at CMC was Psychology of the Criminal Mind with an emphasis on intervention for youth offenders. She also earned a certificate from Colorado Law Enforcement Academy.

October 2003 Caley and her parents moved from Basalt to a ranch in De Beque. She decided to go with them so they could continue ranching. On May 12, 2009 her father passed away. That date was 46 years to the day after his father was killed on Wolf Creek Pass.

I asked Caley if she remembered what her first job was and she replied, "first job was taking care of the bottle calves on our ranch – first paying job was babysitting for a lot of her neighbors – her first W-2 came from a job with the BLM through the Youth Conservation Corps which was a summer program for high school students. We were able to work for only one summer and completed various jobs, such as repair/replace all types of fences, beautify campgrounds, pick up trash and reseeding and replacing areas that had been devastated by fire."

Currently Caley and her mother are running the ranch. Right now they have 40 adult female sheep, 56 adult female goats, 2 adult male sheep, 5 adult male goats, 54 baby lambs, 49 baby goats, 2 yearling beef heifers (which will be bred this summer for beef for the freezer), 11 adult rabbits and 4 baby rabbits.

Caley, also does bookkeeping for various people; from being totally responsible for their books, to only doing payroll quarterlies. In her spare time she is a leader for two different 4-H Clubs, plus does genealogy research for friends and family.

I asked Caley if she were able to actually meet one of her ancestors that she had researched, who would that person be and why?

"I would love to meet my great grandmother Annine, who I was named after. She led an interesting life because she came to America from Schleswig-Holstein with her mother and stepfather when she was less than 10 years old. They settled in Chicago. Both her mother and stepfather died within a year after the great Chicago fire and Annine and her half sister were placed in the Chicago Home for the Friendless. When Annine was 17, she was hired as a nanny for a family coming west and ended up in Colorado and subsequently homesteaded in the San Luis Valley.

Caley joined MCGS in 2004 and some names she has researched are Gredig, Brodhag, Schrupp and Bass.

Written by: Jan Wilson, Historian/Archivist

The Mesa County Genealogical Society, established in 1980, is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization.

Objectives:

1. To promote an interest in genealogy, to encourage and instruct members in the art and practice of genealogical research.
2. To maintain and elevate genealogical standards, to stress the importance of accuracy in research through careful documentation.
3. To locate, preserve and index public and private genealogical records and make such records available to members and the general public.
4. To assist and support any genealogical library in Colorado, which is open to the public.

Society meetings are held the 2nd Thursday of each month in the Cross Orchards – Orchards View Room, 3073 F Road, 7:00 pm. The monthly Sack Lunch meeting is held in the 2nd floor Museum conference room of the C. D Smith Building at 5th & Ute Streets at 12 noon on the 4th Wednesday of each month. A Board of Directors meeting will often follow the Sack Lunch meeting from 1pm - 2pm.

Society Officers

President	Dennis Jenkins
Vice President	Carole Moritz
Secretary	Donna Jackson
Treasurer	Jill Berthod

Board Members

Kathie Vlahos	<u>3 year Term</u>
Karen Grew-Ellison	2008-2009-2010
Ron Knapp	2010-2011-2012
	2009-2010-2011

Standing Committee Chairpersons

Historian/Archivist	Jan Wilson
Co-Genealogist/Librarian	Kay Oxer
Co-Genealogist/Librarian	Linda Garey
Newsletter Editor	Kathie Vlahos
Assistant Editor	Karen Grew-Ellison
Society Webmaster	Caley Gredig
Parliamentarian	Vacant
Program Director	Dennis Jenkins
Research Director	Bob Cress
Chair-person	Donna Jackson

Membership year: March 1 - February 28/29

Annual Dues: \$10 Single - \$12 Family (2 voting family members). Those with unpaid dues after April 30th of the membership year will not receive the newsletter.

Contributions to the *Mesa Dwellers* are encouraged and appreciated and should be neatly typed or written stories, queries, articles and/or other information applicable to genealogy research. Contribution (deadlines): March issue (Feb 15), June issue (May 15), September issue (August 15), December issue (November 15).

Send to: Kathie Vlahos at [redacted] telephone: [redacted]

June - September 2010 ~ Upcoming Programs and Events

- 10 June Thursday Evening Meeting: 7 p.m. – Meet at Mesa Cemetery at **6 pm** for a tour by Dave Fishell.
- 23 June Wednesday Noon Sack Lunch: Familysearch.org – Research Series Classes Online.
- 8 July Thursday Evening Meeting: 7 p.m. – Annual Brickwall Sharing.
- 28 July Wednesday Noon Sack Lunch: Familysearch.org – Research Series Classes Online.
- 12 August Thursday Evening Meeting: Annual Picnic at Martea Johnson's.
- 25 August Wednesday Noon Sack Lunch: Familysearch.org – Research Series Classes Online.
- 9 September Thursday Evening Meeting: 7 p.m. – *Dating Old Photographs* by Peggy Lippo
-

President's Message

Please note on your calendar that our Thursday evening meeting on June 10th will be held at the Orchard Mesa Cemetery for a tour led by Dave Fishell. Note also that we will meet at **6 pm** in order to have the tour occur before it gets dark.

At the May 13th Thursday evening meeting we voted to set up a booth at the Thursday, July 22nd Farmer's Market in Downtown Grand Junction. It is hoped that this will give Mesa County Genealogical Society additional presence to Grand Valley Residents and possibly increase our membership in the process. I am hoping this booth in July will be successful enough to consider having a booth for August and September. For this effort to work it will depend on society members being willing to help prepare and set up displays as well as manning the booth. I want to thank the members who have already volunteered to help with July booth.

Another effort that is in the making is our new Beginning Genealogy Class Committee. I want to thank Caley, Kathie, Anita, Martea and Dorothy for the continuing efforts to develop a curriculum and strategy that will allow the Society to offer beginner classes to prospective members as well as current members.

Some of you may remember a Wednesday Noon sack lunch program we had about Blog & Newsletter websites about a year ago. I recommended that you try some of them out since they can give you information on new ways to do your research.

Dick Eastman's blog at <http://www.eogn.com> is a very good one. Though he charges an annual fee to see his "Plus" articles, he allows you to see the majority of his Blog for free. You need to sign up to receive the Free Blogs. You can just delete the Blog if nothing appears to be of interest and you can always go to his website and search in the archives.

You can also sign up to receive the New England Historic Genealogical Society weekly newsletters eNews <http://www.newenglandancestors.org/publications/eNews.asp>. I like the public libraries they write about that have genealogical information including obituary files.

Additionally, Rootsweb.com and Ancestry.com each have weekly newsletters that have very interesting articles. You can either sign up to receive them in your email, or go to their websites or read them from their archives.

Dennis Jenkins

Happenings at the MCGS Noon Meeting

Our Wednesday April 25, 2010 sack lunch meeting was led by Larry Eucher, and the topic was different types of Church/Religious Records. The following is from Larry's notes on this subject, together with some other ideas from the group.

CHURCH RECORDS

Church Documents (mainly the Christian Faith, but important to note that there are also Islamic, Jewish, Buddhist, Wiccan, etc. The various Christian sects might include for example, Roman Catholic, Methodist, Lutheran, LDS, Presbyterian, 7th Day Adventist, Baptist, Quaker, and many more)

I. Types of Documents

- Membership Lists/Committees (for individual churches, choirs, men's and women's auxiliaries, religious orders, service groups)
- Offertory/Tithing/Special Fund Contributions (e.g. building fund, receipts, donations for pews, altar, stained glass windows)
- Baptism/Christening (e.g. certificates)
- Confirmation (pictures, certificates, bibles)--RC-age of discretion, usually 7, Lutheran 14, *Jugendweihe* (youth dedication), United Methodist (junior, sometimes senior high school), Bar (13) and Bat (12) Mitzvah.
- Marriage (e.g. Record of Ceremony, Attendance Books, Certificates, Apostolic Blessings, photographs)
- Death (e.g. Funeral sermons [Leichenpredigten], Mass/Memorial Cards, Mass/Prayer cards, Sexton/Burial record, Tombstones, guest signature lists of attendance at funeral, eulogies)
- Vestry Books (think of them as accountant's ledger books)
- Pastor's/Priest's Diaries, records of activity, Circuit Rider books
- Meeting Minutes (e.g. Quaker Monthly, Quarterly, and Annual Meeting records)
- Church history books (e.g. Centennial celebrations, sections of County Histories, etc.)
- Pastor and other Clergy Listings
- Bibles, prayer books, hymnals, cook books
- Missionary records
- Yearbooks for church sponsored schools
- Internet (maps, locations, contacts, on-line copies)

II. Accessibility

- Church office record books (and hierarchical copies elsewhere in church organization)
- Church itself (memorial plaques, tombstones for persons buried in church)
- Pastor's notes and personal book (parsonage)
- Published Vestry Books (historical and genealogical societies, research libraries)
- Published Minutes (historical and genealogical societies, research libraries)
- Cemetery Office (Sexton' records of burial, cemetery maps)
- Cemetery itself (tombstones, memorials, mausoleums)
- Individual certificates, bibles, pictures, etc. (can be anywhere)

III. Types of information one can expect to find

- Individual names
- Locations
- Relationships of parent, child, spouse, sometimes other
- Actual or calculated dates (e.g. a date of marriage, a calculated dob from confirmation)

IV. Other ideas

- Sunday School Attendance Records
- Household Examination (Swedish Clerical Survey)
- Bishop's Chest (England)
- Family Registers
- Ordinances

*Thank you Larry Eucher for the use of your notes.
Submitted by Karen Grew-Ellison, May 2010*

Mesa County School Districts 1881 – 1951

This will be the last issue in which we will be looking at historical information of the Mesa County School District #51. For more information on the Mesa County School District #51's rural area schools, check at the Museum of the Western Colorado Library, 4th and Ute Av., Grand Junction, Co. or the Mesa County School District office, 2115 Grand Av., Grand Junction, Co., for a copy of the book, "A History of the Districts and Schools that became Mesa County Valley School District Number 51, 1881-1951", by Albert and Terry LaSalle.

I would like to thank the Museum of Western Colorado Library, Grand Junction, Colorado, for directing me to the book written by Albert and Terry LaSalle, "A History of the Districts and Schools that became Mesa County Valley School District Number 51, 1881-1951" and also to the Mesa County Valley School District 51 for supplying the book to me. With Albert and Terry LaSalle's and the District 51's permission, I am publishing some of the information from the book for educational purposes only.

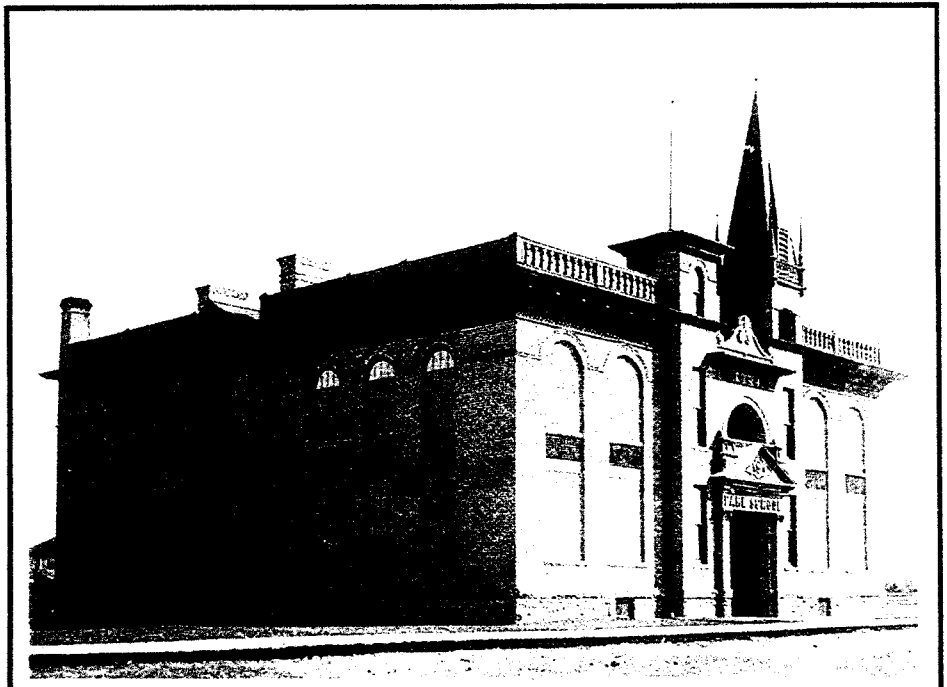
District 1 EMERSON SCHOOL 930 Ute

1903-1972, Elementary School
1980's, Pupil/Personnel Services
2001, Instructional Offices

Emerson School opened in 1903, but an early photograph, probably taken when the school opened, had the name PARK over the south entrance door. The school was across the street from Cottonwood Park. Perhaps that explains the name. Sometime before 1910, the school's name was changed to Emerson. Upon the request of the Emerson teachers, in May of 1916, the name of the park was changed to Emerson.

Emerson was an elementary school from its opening in 1903 to when it closed in 1972. During its last years of service it was a Title I School, individualizing instruction for the educationally disadvantaged child.

By February of 1973 both Emerson and Lowell schools were closed, as the two old buildings were poorly adapted to the needs of the students of the day. The students were sent to the newly remodeled junior high building at 9th and Chipeta. This new school was called Columbine Elementary.



Emerson School circa 1903. The name over the entrance is Park. (Photo Museum of Western Colorado)

After Emerson closed in 1972, it was used for Pupil and Personnel Services, including nurses, speech therapists, audiologists and psychologists.

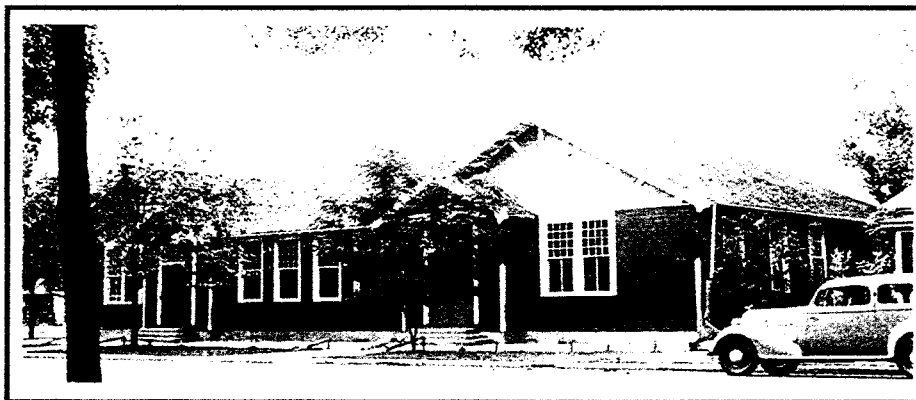
Even though the Emerson building in 2001 is being used for instructional offices, the tradition of developing appropriate education for children has been carried over to the New Emerson School at the Columbus Building, 2660 Unaweep Avenue.

**District 1
HAWTHORNE SCHOOL
410 Hill Avenue**

1908-1963, Elementary School
1964-1969, Special Education
1969-1974, Closed
1974-1977, Administrative Annex
1977-1988, Media Center
1988-2001, Support Services

Hawthorne School was built in 1908 on the corner of 4th and Hill, just north of Walnut Park. A 1910 photo indicates that Walnut Park was also referred to as Children's Park. A city ordinance in 1916 changed the name of Walnut Park to Hawthorne Park.

Over the years the grades taught at Hawthorne varied as the needs and ages of the students changed. In 1912 grades 1 through 8 were taught,



Hawthorne School in 1936 (District 51 Archives)

and in 1923 grades 1, 3, 7 and 8. From 1964 to 1969 special education classes were taught there. From 1974 to 2001 the building had various uses: Administration Annex, Media Center, Student Records and Support Services.

**WASHINGTON SCHOOL
9th Street and Hill Ave.
1922-1941**

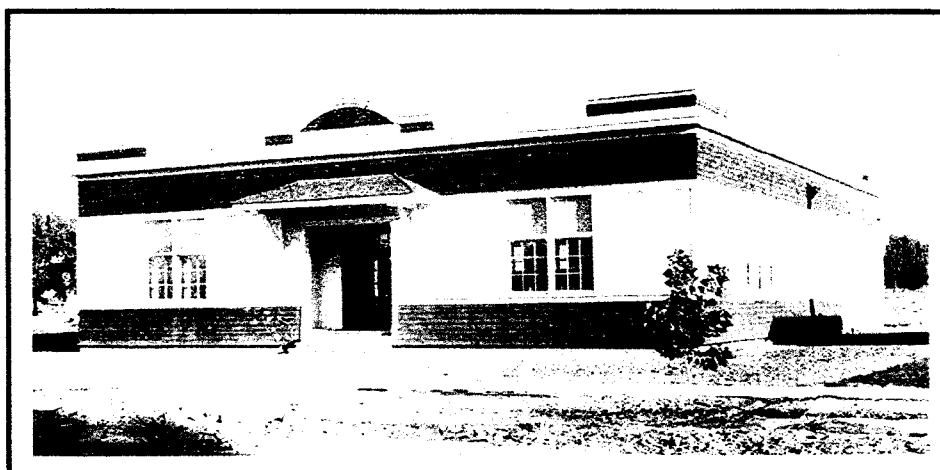
1922-1941, Elementary School
World War II, Used for Child Care Center
1950's, Elementary Special Education classes
1955, Special Education classes, GJJHS
1971, Physical Education storage
1980, Building was removed
1990, Land traded for UTEC property

As more people moved to the area, and homes were built on the outskirts of town, parents thought eight to 16 blocks was too great a distance for elementary students to walk to existing grade schools. In 1920 as a stopgap measure three rooms in the basement of the high school building at 9th Street and Chipeta Avenue were used for elementary classes. This arrangement was referred to as Chipeta School.

This was not an ideal situation, so in 1922 a new school was built on the northeast corner of 9th Street and Hill Avenue. The school board only had \$5,000, so the parents agreed to make up whatever difference there would be. Miss Ada B.

Copeland, principal, drew the plans, and men faculty members and townsmen constructed the building under the direction of Mr. R. E. Hindman, the high school manual training teacher. Mothers of the children did the painting. In September of 1922 a four-room school was open to accommodate the 120 students that arrived for school that fall.

When Tope Elementary opened in 1941, the students from Washington School were transferred there. During World War II the Washington building was used for childcare for working mothers. In later years it was used for elementary and junior high special education classes and then finally for physical education storage. The building was removed in 1980.



Washington School 1936 (Photo Tope School Scrapbook)

**District 1
HIGH SCHOOL (FRANKLIN BUILDING)
Between 5th & 6th on Rood Avenue**

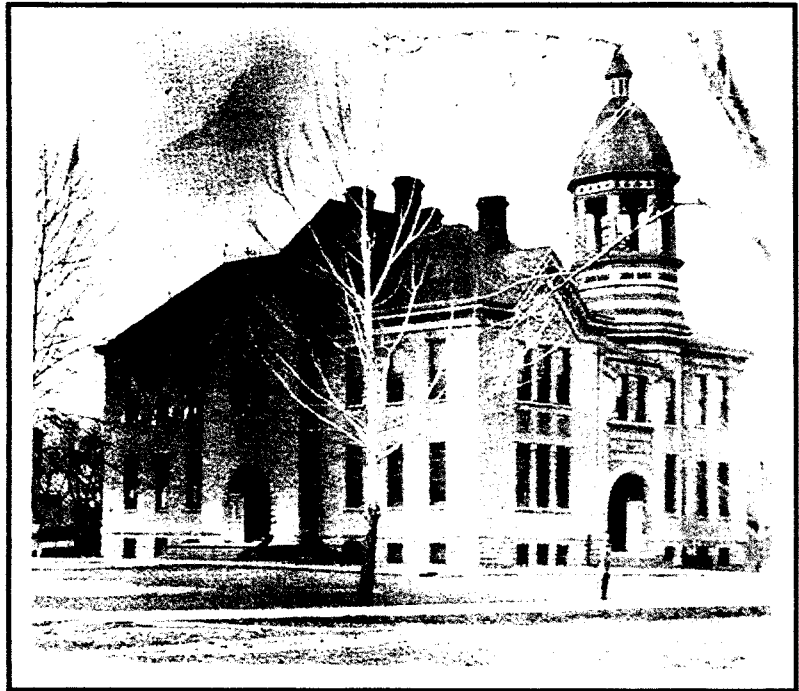
Franklin School

The first school building in Grand Junction built specifically as a high school was the Franklin Building, 6th and Rood. All evidence indicates it was referred to as the Franklin Building or school, not Grand Junction High School.

In 1891 when it was built, Franklin was the largest building in town. Students from all over the county attended this school. It had three floors, 12 rooms, and a bell in the belfry.

The first course of study was a three-year course, and the first class graduated in 1892 with two graduates, Henry Pope Hunter and Patrick Toomey. The following years were four-year courses.

The Franklin Building was demolished in 1917 because of a crumbling foundation. In 1922 a new County Courthouse was built at that location and still stands today (2001).



*Franklin School, Grand Junction's first high school.
(Photo Museum of Western Colorado)*

When the first Grand Junction football team was formed, the student body was so small they had to play with fewer than eleven men.

**FIRST GRAND JUNCTION HIGH SCHOOL
1911-1955
9th Street & Chipeta Avenue**

The first Grand Junction High School building was built in 1911 at 9th Street and Chipeta Avenue. The tenth, eleventh and twelfth grades were taught in this building. Freshman classes were held in the Franklin Building until a new wing was added to Grand Junction High School in 1917.

The new principal was Richard E. Tope from Ponca City, Oklahoma. He was principal until 1918 when he was appointed superintendent of schools for District 1. W. E. Hiron was the high school's second principal.



*First part of the new Grand Junction High School built in 1911.
(Photo 1915 Annual. Courtesy Twila Carothers.)*

The 1911 school was considered to be "out in the sticks" because it was built "out on Ninth and Chipeta."

**District 1
First Grand Junction High
School (continued)**

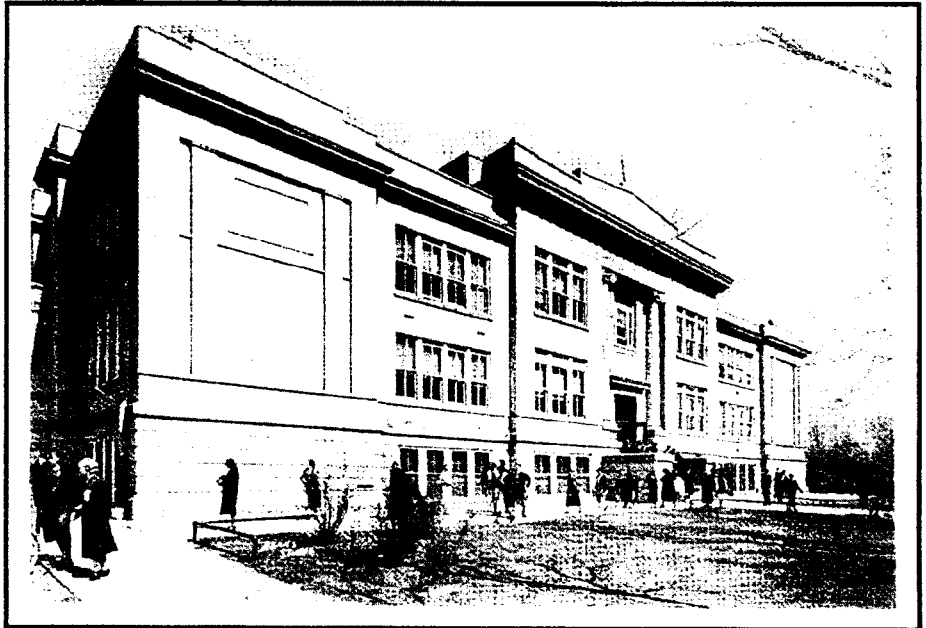
The center section of the high school was erected in 1910-1911. It included four basement rooms, four second-floor rooms and an auditorium on the top floor called the senior assembly. The west wing was added in 1917, making room for the freshmen to move over from the Franklin building. The east wing was added in 1920.

In 1926 a new junior high school and gymnasium were built on the west side of the Grand Junction High School campus. The gymnasium faced south onto Chipeta Avenue, and the junior high school faced west onto 9th Street. The music room and manual training building were added in 1928.

The junior high campus expanded into the old high school building in 1956 when a new high school was built at 1400 North 5th Street. All of these buildings were used as Grand Junction Junior High School until it closed in the spring of 1971. East and West Junior High Schools opened in the fall of 1971.

The old Grand Junction High School was removed in the spring of 1973. The original junior high building and the gymnasium are presently Columbine Elementary (2001).

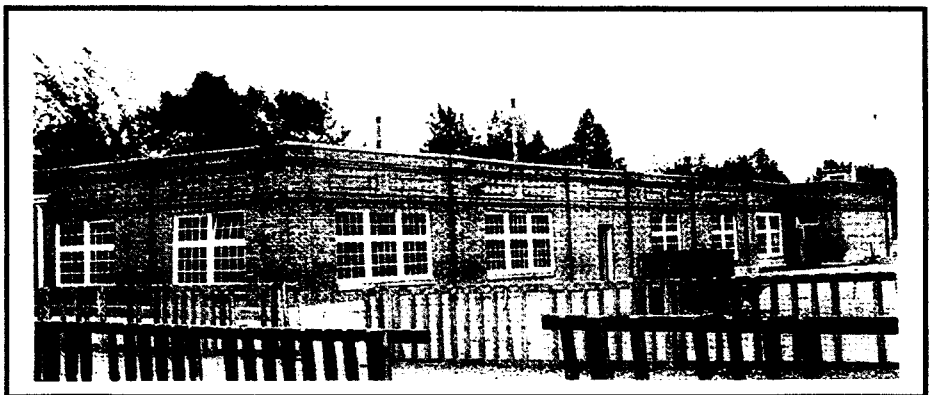
(Delta Kappa Gamma Research, 1948 GJHS Handbook, 1915 GJHS annual, 1910-1911 Public School Catalogue)



*From the 1936 Grand Junction High School Annual
(Photo courtesy Vernon Griffith)*



Both the gymnasium (center) and the Junior High School (left) were built in 1926. (Photo taken in 1936, District 51 Archives)



Manual Training Building (Photo from 1936, District 51 archives)

Mesa County Genealogical Societies 30th year Blasts from the Past 1990 – 1999

Next time you are feeling rather unimportant, try a little arithmetic trick based on the unbeatable fact that it took two people, your parents, to get you here. Each of your parents has two parents, so in the generation just prior to that of your mother and father, there were four people who's pairing off and sharing love contributed to your existence. You are the product of eight great-grandparents, 16 great-great-grandparents, 32 great-great-great-grandparents, etc. Keep on multiplying the number by two. If you figure an average of about 25 years between each generation, you'll discover that a scant 500 years ago, there were 1,048,576 people on this planet beginning the production of you. (From Rev. Gene Britton in East Point, Ga. Southside Sun, Readers digest) *From Mesa Dwellers, Vol. XII, June 1992, No. 2*

Fine Kettle of Fish

Scottish fishermen thought they could get the best flavor out of their fish by cooking them on the spot in large kettles and used no seasoning. But, when this was tried by others, it didn't work and so it was said "Kettle of Fish". That became a sarcastic way of saying something was a big mess. *From Mesa Dwellers, Vol. XII, June 1992, No. 2*

Calendar

The everyday citizen of Rome did not have a paper "calendar". When the first of the month came around, the town crier went through the streets calling "Calare" and said the "Calends" to the first of each month. The bankers, called money lenders, called their account books "calendariums" and compounded interest at each "calend". From this came our modern calendar. *From Mesa Dwellers, Vol. XII, September 1992, No. 3.*

Obsolete Ordinance No Good in First Place, Amarillo, Texas, September 3, 1929

"It couldn't be done, so they didn't need ordinances prohibiting soldiers from riding the buffalo", John Arnot, old timer of the Texas plains said in commenting on a report that an old ordinance had been found prohibiting the soldiers from molesting buffalo by riding them.

Arnot who punched cows on the Texas panhandle in '84 said only one man in his memory ever was able to stay atop a bucking fear crazed buffalo. He was "Young Buck" Yarbrough, early Texas character.

Arnot is credited with slaying the last buffalo killed in Texas. (UP – copied in The Delores Star)

From Mesa Dwellers, Vol. XII, December, 1992, No. 4

Signatures Using "X"

Before the 17th Century, educated persons often used the "X" to sign official papers. The X, which symbolized the Sign of the Cross, meant that by their faith the document was proper. The witnesses present to identify the "x makers" often signed with their signatures. The St. Andrew's Cross (x), the Cross of Calvary (with a bar near the top), and The Greek Cross (+), were all used on a variety of documents, wills, deeds, and royal decrees. Eventually, the x was adopted by people who did not know how to write. So don't assume that your ancestor could not write his name just because he signed with a X. (Taken from Appanoose County Genealogical Society Newsletter, April 1993, Vol. 17, No. 2 and Eastern NE Genealogical Society, March 1991). *From Mesa Dwellers, Vol. XIII, June 1993, No. 2.*

Were your German Relatives Polygamists?

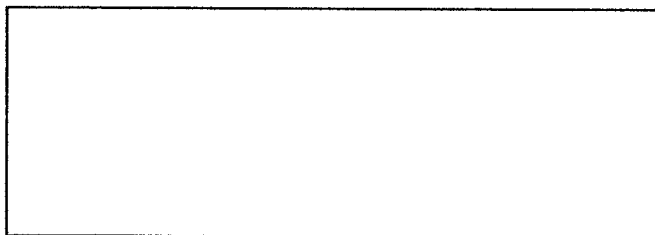
Roots and Leaves, the newsletter of the Eastern Nebraska Genealogical Society, published an article about the period following the Thirty-Years War, 1618-1648. During this period the population of what is now Germany fell from 16 million to about 4 million people. In order to repopulate these devastated areas, teenagers were encouraged to marry young, priests were permitted to marry and raise families and polygamy was advocated and sanctioned. A law in 1650 gave men in Northern Bavaria permission to have up to ten wives at the same time. Polygamy; something to keep in mind when researching this area.

From Mesa Dwellers, September, 1996, Vol. XVI, No. 3

Continued on page 10

Mesa County Genealogical Society

P.O. Box 1506
Grand Junction, CO
81502-1506



Continued from page 9

Life in the 1500's

Most people got married in June because they took their yearly bath in May and were still smelling pretty good by June. However, they were starting to smell, so brides carried a bouquet of flowers to hide the b.o. Baths equaled a big tub filled with hot water. The man of the house had the privilege of the nice clean water, then all the other sons and men, then the women and finally the children. Last of all, the babies, by then the water was so dirty you could actually loose someone in it. Hence the saying, "Don't throw the baby out with the bath water."

From Mesa Dwellers December, 1999, Vol. 19, No. 3-4

Birthday Box

There is more to this little box that is passed around at each meeting than many of us know.

As a way to raise money, the "birthday box" is passed among those attending each general meeting. Anyone who is celebrating a birthday that month is asked to contribute something to the box. Likewise, anyone who would like to make a contribution in the name of another person can do so at that time.

All the money collected in this way is used to purchase books for the Society's library. Next time the "birthday box" comes by you, please consider putting something in, even if it isn't your special day.

From Mesa Dwellers, Vol. XVI, June 1996, No. 2.