

## **Introduction, Page 1:**

The 20<sup>th</sup> century philosopher, George Santayana once said, “ Those who cannot learn from history are doomed to repeat it.” Then there was the infamous Karl Marx quotation “History repeats itself, first as tragedy, second as farce.” Both of these quotations have a certain amount of merit when they display the weakness of human endeavor in the pursuit of happiness.

This is a book about human endeavor related to the life and times of my Dunn ancestors. In many ways this story does demonstrate the redundancy of human failings throughout past history. But in most respects the lives and times of my Dunn story provides a realistic view of how each generation experiences their ups and downs with their human endeavors. It seems that each generation faces different categories of problems that mostly reflect the times that they live in.

This story does contain a genealogy connection of my Dunn family but also includes the historic times in which they lived. If we can look at history as a sort of time line then it becomes clear that there is a definite progress in what we generally think of as modernization. Albeit, there were some very slow improvements in the lifestyles of our ancestors at certain times and some setbacks that became quite drastic.

My purpose is to present a past and recent history as it relates to my Dunn family. I also offer a perceived outlook into what my future Dunn family descendants might possibly face during the future years. Of course any projections that I may have pertaining to the future are probably at best a guess and analogous to gazing into a crystal ball. But I will give it my best based on what I presently see as our world continues to move into a globalized economy.

It seems to me that there is little purpose to go any further back into history beyond the period of the reformation. That would take us back to about the mid 1500's. In fact it could be said that modern history really started during the period of the reformation. I am taking the Dunn family name back to the late 1600's. This is about as far back into time that I can reasonably place a Dunn name within my family heritage.

My Dunn family story is really an historical study of the life and times of our Dunn ancestors. There is quite a bit of history that I hope will be of interest to the reader. I am interested in historical events but do not in any way pretend to be an historical scholar. Just call me an historical buff. Most of my historical references can be seen in the appendix.

I have an Uncle George who recently passed his 100<sup>th</sup> year on this earth. Just picture three Uncle George's holding their hands in front of us. These three gentlemen would represent three hundred years of past history that would date back to the very early 1700's. Their total lives really represent very recent history when compared to the history of the human race.

## **Introduction, Page 2:**

Any description of my family becomes more difficult when I attempt to chronicle accurate information further back into time. I can not necessarily vouch for the accuracy that I obtain from other Dunn researchers. Even genealogical historical articles can possibly have inaccuracies related to the times that they describe. But I have given it my best shot at trying to obtain as much information in order to present a reasonable accurate story of my Dunn family history.

Much genealogical research is based on the endeavors of other people to which their information might be flawed. Often times genealogists, myself included, are so excited to find a long lost ancestor that they might fail to look for further backup information in order to confirm their findings. And often there is little further evidence to back up the little information that they may have.

The best evidence are documented items that a genealogist might find in a library. This kind of information is always much more accurate than relying on the findings of other individuals. So genealogy is really an inexact science and the problem of accuracy becomes more problematic as the search goes further back into time.

I have relied a lot on communicating with other Dunn researchers on the Internet. I also have researched for documents at the Sutro genealogy library at San Francisco as well as the Latter Day Saints library in San Jose, California. It is essential to obtain as many copies of historical documentation as possible.

Much of the recent history of my Dunn family, dating back through the 1800's has been quite accurately documented based on written information and old letters that my Aunt Elizabeth Karshner Dunn had kept through many years. Fortunately, my grandfather, Benjamin Joseph Dunn, had gathered and kept the family information and passed them on to Elizabeth.

The genealogist of my family was Alice V. Dunn, who was my grandfather's cousin. In a letter to Elizabeth, dated April 6, 1953, Alice wrote " but to begin with, I could not find my Dunn Record. To my amazement it was not where I was sure I'd find it. I may have sent it to Albert Letcher Jr., Julia's son in California. So I'm writing him to send me a copy." How lucky it was that Elizabeth was able to eventually receive the Dunn Record.

This story of my Dunn family includes only those loving ancestors who are no longer with us. It is my hope, that in the future, there will be a family member out there who will continue on with this story.

Reading this story of our Dunn forefathers, and foremothers, should remind us of how lucky we are to live in this modern world of ours with its many conveniences that we take for granted. Our lifestyle far exceeds anything our family ancestors could have ever imagined.

### Introduction Page 3:

A Scottish surname is of local origin, being one whose name is derived from the place where he once lived or held land. The name Dunn may have come from an old Berwickshire Dunse family who derived their surname from the lands of that name in that shire. Another source claims that the Dunn name is derived from the land of Dun, a fort in Angus not far from Montrose Scotland. The name Dunn is common to all of the eastern lowland regions of Scotland. The middle English word “Dun” means a hill; and was used as a surname to denote one who lived “at the dun”.

The Gaelic word “dunn” had the meaning of “brown” and was used as a common nickname in Scotland. Donn or Dunn (Dunn becoming the more prominent) eventually became a proper surname in Scotland. Brown also became a common surname in its own right.

There are several early references to bearers of the surname Dunn in Scotland during the medieval period. One of the earliest refers to a Hugh de Duns who is recorded as witnessing the grant of the church of Lanture to the Abbey of Kelsa in 1150. In 1202-1222 Robert de Duns witnessed the gift of the church of Brennath (Birnie in Moray) to the same abbey.. In 1296 a Thomas Dun was hanged at Egin for stealing books and vestments from the church.

The name Dunn was established in the American Colonies at an early date. Records show that a Jo Dunn, aged twenty-six, sailed from London to Virginia in 1634 after first taking the oath of allegiance of supremacy to the English King before embarking.

According to a survey in 1995, there were an estimated one hundred and thirty thousand bearers of the name Dunn in the United States.



**My wife Donna and I dressed up in those fine outfits of yesterday.**

**2004**



## THE REFORMATION

The Reformation refers to an event where the people in the northern part of Europe, and much of France, during the mid-1500's started to look upon religious faith through a personal relation with God, not through the papacy of the Roman Catholic Church. This change was significant since previously the commitment to salvation was always through the graces of the church. This was a tremendous turn from the past and presented many social changes within the northern European governments.

How did this change come to pass? It all started with one man, Martin Luther, when he nailed his ninety-five theses on the door of the Wittenberg Church, Wittenberg, Germany, in 1517. The church door was often used as a bulletin board for announcements. The theses were meant to be used as discussion points with fellow leaders of the local Catholic Church.

However, the ninety-five theses were items that were generally a direct affront to many of the practices of the Church of Rome. The list of theses was eventually leaked out to the public through printed media using the Gutenberg printing press. This was your 16<sup>th</sup> century Internet method of communication. The European world would never be the same. The message of a personal relationship with God caught on like wildfire. And Martin was in trouble. But he continued to write articles about personal faith and also included a sense of humor into his writings in relation to the Church of Rome. He must have known that he might pay a terrible price to say what he had held back for many of the previous years. There were even cartoons that were distributed for those who could not read.

There is a large amount of information about Martin Luther on the internet for those who wish to study his history. He never had to face the horrible fate of burning at the stake.

Historians have generally used the name of Martin Luther as the person who changed the history of Europe. The Reformation brought about many social changes such as The Renaissance and The Age of Enlightenment. The term Renaissance was really a term of Rebirth, which was basically a cultural change that took place during the 16<sup>th</sup> century. The Age of Enlightenment soon followed during the 17<sup>th</sup> century where philosophers started to view the universe where god and nature were one. And new scientific thinking developed where men like Pascal (mathematics), Galileo (telescopes & astronomy) and Isaac Newton (physical motion & calculus) became the forefathers of future scientific endeavors.

Without really realizing it, Martin had opened the door to a new beginning. The world would never again be the same.

## SCOTLAND IN THE 1600's

Scotland is quite a small country that can be compared to the size of Maine. During the 1600's it contained only about half a million people. The capital of Edinburgh had a population of only about ten thousand. There were generally only pathways to travel and few boundaries of property. This led to constant cattle raiding and neighborhood feuds. The barons, who owned most of the lands, would draw fees from the meager wages that the farmers could draw off of the poor productive land. Barons, who generally could neither read nor write, were often the peacekeepers of their farming communities.

There was no standing army, no police force and few civil servants. In other words the property owner, the baron, was the one who had to often judge over the neighborhood quarrels.

All of the trees that had covered the country many years before had been completely removed for fire wood and meager housing construction.

Many barons lived in large well-fortified castles. This led to the minimal power capabilities of the Scottish King. In addition, there were constant wars that had to be fought with the English king to the south. These wars often caused immense damage to the farmer's properties. However, the farmer generally had a personal loyalty towards the local baron during times of war and personal strife within the community. The barons always seemed to be the last source of protectionism. Of course I would imagine that the people generally resented the large fees that they had to pay for their leases. However, there were laws that were enacted during the middle sixteen hundreds that required a fifty day notice before a legal eviction.

Conditions changed when King James VI of Scotland became James I of England. This was due to the death of Queen Elizabeth in 1603 when the two kingdoms had a common ruler. The King established guards at the English and Scottish border in order to prevent criminals from crossing the border, in either direction. The border guards were commanded to slay anyone who resisted arrest. This act soon ended the animosity within the two kingdoms. It also allowed for free trade and commerce between the two countries for the first time after several centuries.

James also set up a new justice system within the country where each Scottish County had a court of law that would meet twice a year. Each county judge had the obligation to try all criminal activity that did not deserve the judgment of death.

Scotland was finally becoming a more modern nation with a rule of law and some degree of civil order.

## THE MIGRATION TO NORTHERN IRELAND

Northern Ireland during the early 1600's was a desolate land that was the result of many English invasions that destroyed the homes and cattle of thousands of Irish citizens. The land became a total wasteland after many years of warfare. However, the land was very fertile and quite attractive for promising farmland.

In the early 1600's there were two men who became interested in the mostly uninhabited land of the north. They realized the farming potential of this vast plantation. The two men, Hamilton and Montgomery, were able to purchase large estates that were nearest to the western coast of Scotland. The distance from their estates varied from twenty to thirty miles from the western coast of Scotland.

The two men then started to encourage people from Scotland to become tenant farmers within the new plantations of Northern Ireland. The success of the early farms was followed by large numbers of Scottish farmers traveling the waterways to the fertile land of Northern Ireland.

Within ten years there were about eight thousand people living within the new plantation of Northern Ireland. King James soon saw the success of the new colonies and began to expand the rest of Northern Ireland into what eventually became known as the colony of Ulster. Tenant farmers were eventually able to acquire a property lease for twenty-one years. In some cases the leases extended for the life of the original lease owner. As the years passed by there were also many Irish families returning to their native soil. They were however given smaller and less productive plots of land. They were also given little control within their local communities. Eventually there were English families coming from the overcrowded conditions of London.

Most of the Scottish men who entered Ulster were from the low lands of Scotland. The highlanders were always looked upon as barbarians and of an uncultured class.

The Presbyterian ministers from Scotland also soon arrived to the new colonies and provided a new impedes of a more modern civilized living condition within the Scottish communities. New schools were built and community interest became more prevalent. The Scottish people were finally joining in on the reformation of a civilized society. They were actually leaving a Scotland that would not join modern society for many more decades.

Northern Ireland (Ulster) and mainland Ireland became like two different countries. The Irish people remained quite poor and were still behind in relation to the developing countries of most of Europe and England. The lives that the Scottish people experienced in Ulster provided them with a feeling of personal responsibility for the wellbeing of their communities. They were able to experience a new outlook within their selves that their forefathers were never able to acquire.

As the years went by the desire for passage to Ulster became more numerous. By 1634 it was estimated that about ten thousand Scottish people had traveled to Ulster within the previous two years. Each person was admitted to the new land as long as they had a certificate of approval for passage. However, a few were disappointed of the harsh climate and hard work and would soon depart back to their homeland. Many of the disappointed were Englishmen who were not used to the many difficulties for survival.

The new arrivals built small homes that were generally constructed of stone. The principle landowners, who were known as Undertakers, were generally wealthy men from England and Scotland. Many of the Scottish immigrants were followers of their previous Scottish landowners who themselves became new Undertakers in Ulster. The Protestant Church of Ireland was also given large grants of land that were previously owned by the Roman Catholic Church.

Most of the new homes were built close together into small communities. It was stipulated that each planter (the farmer) must build a home and a bawn. The bawn was a rock walled enclosure that would provide protection for livestock during the nighttime. Many of the angry deposed Irishmen would often terrorize the new farmers at night. There were also wolves that would roam the neighborhoods after dark. The Undertakers would most often build elaborate castles and enormous bawns about their estates. Many of these old castles still exist today and are favorite tourist attractions.

Many of the displaced Irish eventually returned to Ulster and became cheap labor for the planters. There is little to assume that there were many intermarriages within the Scottish men and the Irish girls. There was always a great bitterness that the Irish held towards the Planters, since they possessed their former Irish homeland. This animosity lingers on even today, after more than three centuries. The Ulster territory today is part of the United Kingdom.

The most important social engagement of the Scotch-Irish people was still within the Presbyterian Church. This would have been where the single Scotch-man would have most certainly met and married one of his own kind.

The early Scottish settlers were just off of the boat and had left a quite meager life behind them. Most were not well educated and few could write the English language. The new clergy that arrived instilled a strict puritan control over the congregation. They preached the concept of the Original Sin being the stain of each individual's life and that the wrath of God was the curse that each member would have to pray for and ask for redemption. Parents who allowed their children to play on the day of the Sabbath would have to bow and ask for forgiveness before the church congregation. Children were not allowed to be baptized until their parents were found to be of good character.

At some point in time the Scotch men in Northern Ireland became known as Scotch Irishmen, or sometimes referred to as Ulstermen, or the men from Ulster. These terms of regional identification became quite popular when a few families from Northern Ireland started to enter the American colonies during the middle 1600's. Many historians will note that the Ulster identification was a means to identify these men as different from the Irishmen. The puritan people that entered the English colonies during the early 1600's were not very cordial when these new immigrants from Ulster started to embark from their boats at Boston Harbor. But the thought that these people were known as Scotch Irishmen was even less troubling than if they were Irishmen. Much more will be included about the trials and tribulations of the racial attitudes of the Puritans at Boston.

There are many books that describe the lives and times of the Ulster colonies in Northern Ireland during the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries. I have named some important books on this subject in the appendix. The new colonies in Northern Ireland were very much a success for many years. The communities grew and thrived and at times even became an economic threat to mainland England.

So in a quick historical review I will describe what changed Ulster from a thriving economic community to a place where many hundreds of planters were ready to escape from famine and war to an unknown future within the American Colonies.

In 1625 King Charles the first, son of King James the first, decided to convert the Ulster Men from their more Presbyterian style of faith to the traditional way of the Church of England. All methods of transformation to the Church of England failed.

In 1642 a civil war commenced when the forces under Oliver Cromwell attack the armies of Charles the first. The Catholics in Ireland took this opportunity to attack the Ulster colonies. This battle lasted ten long years. By 1650 many thousands of people on both sides died. Eventually Cromwell's army defeated the King's army and King Charles the 1<sup>st</sup> was beheaded. In the same year Cromwell came to Ireland and ended the Irish rebellion against the north. In 1690, the King of England, William of Orange, a Protestant king, finally ended the war in all of Ireland by defeating the puritan armies at the Battle of Boyne. Peace finally arrives at the Ulster colonies.

This fast track through most of the 17<sup>th</sup> century of Ulster Ireland projects a dismal history for the Scotch-Irish families. However, there were actually several years when the Ulster communities thrived both economically and with new greater liberties of religious freedom. One of the most fundamental reasons for the great migration to the English colonies of the new world was the end of the low cost contracts of farm land leases that the Ulstermen had enjoyed for so many years. The cost on new land leases were so high that the farmer could not provide a reasonable living for his family. However, there were Irishmen, who were willing to accept a meager living along with the high cost of land leases.

A period of prosperity did arise after the wars were over. But then a long drought occurred for several years, causing many crops to fail. The long years of success were a prelude to an exodus of thousands of Scotch-Irish people from Ulster to the American Colonies, which commenced in 1717. Ulster families set sail for the new a new life, just as their ancestors had done years earlier during the Scottish migration from Scotland to Northern Ireland.

There were but a few influxes of immigration of Ulster families to the American colonies during the middle to late 1600's. The first significant movement of Scotch Irish immigration to the colonies occurred from 1717 to 1718. Many of these people migrated to the Pennsylvania Colony where William Penn allowed for the acceptance of people of different faiths. In 1717, Philadelphia received hundreds of Scotch- Irish during just four months time. Another wave of immigration to the Pennsylvania colony from 1725 to 1729 was even much larger. The Pennsylvania colony was very popular over several years and became a great success.

There had to be a great deal of sadness when Ulster family members left on the ships for a new life in the New World. They were leaving friends and probably older family members that knew that they would never see one another again. I have included an old poem that probably expresses best the feelings that the departing Ulster people felt when they were departing from the shores of Ulster.

**AN EMIGRANTS FAREWELL BY Billy Durning, Farmer & Poet**

**MY NATIVE SHORES AND GREEN CLAD HILLS ARE FADING FAST FROM VIEW.**

**THE SHIP WHICH BARES ME ON MY WAY PLOWS O'RE THE OCEAN BLUE**

**WITH TEAR FILLED EYES I BACKWARD GAZE A PARTING LOOK TO SHARE**

**AS ALL THE LOFTY MOUNTAINS GRAY ARE FADING INTO AIR**

**A MOMENT PASSES AND ALL IS BLANK THE LAND SINKS OUT OF VIEW**

**WITH GRIEF GRIPPED HART, THAT STINGING DART I WAVE A LAST ADIEU**

**THAT FINAL GLIMPSE OF ERIN GONE I WESTWARD TURN MY GAZE**

**WHILE SUNBEAMS GLEAMING FROM THE SKY ARE DANCING ON THE WAVES**

**FOND MEMORIES OF MY OLD HOMESTEAD I PICTURE IN MY MIND**

**THE GAMES WE PLAYED, THE SPORTS WE MADE WITH COMRADES TRUE AND  
KINDI'LL**

**CHERISH ALL MY FUN FILLED DAY HOW SWIFT THE YEARS GO NOW TO THOSE**

**COMRADES, ONE AND ALL I BID A GOOD GOODBYE.**

## THE GREAT SURGE

There were five ships that sailed from Ulster and arrived in Boston harbor in July and August of 1718. This was the beginning of “the great surge”. There was the Mary Anne, William and Mary, William, Robert and an unknown ship’s name. A Boston Newsletter of July 28 to August 4, 1718 stated that 200 souls were reported as already coming before other ships had yet to arrive. So there may have been but a very few hundred people arriving on the five ships from Ulster entering Boston harbor in August 1718.

Thousands of Scotch Irish families sailed into Boston harbor at a later date and migrated to various parts of the New England colonies. Many of the immigrants from Ulster were able to pay for their passage by becoming indentured servants. If a ship was not fully loaded a captain might sign on passengers with a written contract for a fixed indentured period of time. The contract could then be sold at Boston harbor to any one who desired to hire the person for the required period of time of the contract. This process was very popular since many people needed help with their plantations within the new colonies. In 1718 Boston had a population of about 12,000 people. The puritans had already been within the Massachusetts colony for two decades and anyone who differed from their strict puritanical religious way of living was looked upon with great distaste. So it was soon after that the new arrivals acknowledged that their future was going to have to be out in the remote wild western regions of the colony.

It is my belief, based on research evidence, that the furthest known Dunn in my family, James Dunn, may have entered the northern English Colonies during what was called “the great surge” of Scotch-Irish into Boston Harbor during the early 1700’s. His actual place and time, as I describe in the appendix, is still a mystery that may never be solved.

The Presbyterian people from Ulster did not share in the strict religious beliefs of the puritan’s Congregational Church. Puritans believed that God only decided that a few specific people deserved salvation. It was only through a belief that a person might be saved if they knew that they had experienced a religious conversion. The Puritans were probably convinced, due to the character and manners of these new arrivals, that they could never be converted. So the tenure of the Ulster families at Boston in 1718 did not last very long.

The Massachusetts governor, Samuel Sutte, arranged for some of the Ulster people to be removed to the town of Worcester, which is about forty miles west from Boston. Some historians feel that it was always the intention of the governor to transplant these new arrivals out into the western town of Worcester so that they would be able to help defend the land west of Boston against hostile Indians.

There were already about two hundred people living within Worcester in 1718. They were all English Puritans who had lived there since about 1713. The town consisted of about fifty log cabins and a few wooden military garrison houses. It is estimated that about fifty Ulster families traveled to Worcester in 1718. There is some evidence that the new arrivals were warmly welcomed at first since they were needed to provide greater protection against Indian raids.

There was a period of time when the puritans shared their Congregational church with the Ulster families. However, the Puritans made it clear that there would never be a Presbyterian Church or minister within the community. It was also required that the Ulster families pay a tithe for each family member to the Unitarian Church. Eventually the warm welcome of the original townspeople turned into animosity towards the Ulster families. The Ulster families eventually started their own Presbyterian religious services in a garrison house under the direction of the Reverend FitzGerald.

In 1740 the Ulster-men attempted to build a meeting- house to be used for their Presbyterian ministry. One night the Puritans tore down the meeting- house before it was completed. They then cut up and burnt all of the lumber. The Puritan people evidently never let up on their animosity towards the Ulster families for all those twenty-two years. All of the Ulster families left Worcester in 1740 and traveled to Colerain, Pelham and Brandford, all early towns near Boston. Some traveled south into the wilderness of Connecticut.

There were many Puritan ways that did not sit well with the Scotch-Irish families. The people from Ulster were generally all very religious and abided by the rules of the ministries of the Presbyterian Church. However, the sermons of the Puritan's church leaders expected strict adherence to "the high expectations of God."

The belief in witchcraft, the power of the devil, was common among the Puritans within the early Boston community. In 1688 laundress Goody Glover was accused of causing Martha Goodwin, 13, her younger brother and two sisters to exhibiting bizarre behavior. The pastor of the Boston North church, the reverend Cotton Mather, attempted to persuade Goody Glover to repent her witchcraft, but to no avail. Goody Glover was hanged. Most of the witchcraft hangings occurred in the town of Salem, just north of Boston. All together there were nineteen men and women that were carted to Gallows Hill and hanged for witchcraft.

Is there any wonder that the Scotch-Irish people, and many others, desired to move beyond, as far as possible, from the good religious folks of Boston.

### **The first Dunn appears in the colonies:**

James Dunn's name first appears in land records where he conveys land to "my son William" which William conveys to his beloved sister "Jennet Hunter", one tract of land in Union, being the same tract I bought of my father James Dunn. Translated meaning, James sold land to his son William and William shared the same track of land with his sister Jennet. Jennet had married a Mr. John Hunter. Women were not allowed to own property in those days. James Dunn's two known children were William and Jennet. William was born about 1717.

The early travel conditions into the wilds of Massachusetts and Connecticut for the first settlers depended on proper preparedness, courage and determination. The following is a condensed description of early New England country traveling from "The pilgrimage of Reverend Thomas Hooker". Thomas Hooker was one of the founders of Hartford, Connecticut.

[There were then few country roads in the Boston and Connecticut Colonies. The only overland ways to distant regions were by Indian paths. Such paths offered the white man great advantages when leading to ford ways across the rivers. Along the paths, the Indians often brought news of distant localities that were desirable for settlement. The Indian paths soon became country roads.

It was the custom to locate early grants of land along these Indian paths. The Indian path to the Connecticut River, in 1636, was familiar to the English.]

It was estimated that it took five days journey to travel from Boston to the Connecticut River, 10 miles per day. It was also convenient to lodge over night at an Indian town.

The General Court of the Connecticut Colony established the early Connecticut plantations, which later became established lawful towns. These plantations were legally presented to a certain number of "proprietors." The proprietors had to be persons of good character as determined by the General Court. It was intended that these proprietors would eventually be called "inhabitants" within their own plantation. Other "inhabitants" would eventually be brought into the plantation after property rights were established. New inhabitants usually had to be voted on by the resident inhabitants. Eventually the plantation would secure legal standing with the colonial government, which had the support given to it by English law.

Often, procuring a minister was required along with assessing rates on the lands according to each man's proportion. Also, special grants were given as a reward to the original inhabitants along with a house-lot and a parcel of land for pasture and meadow. I would assume that there must have been money involved in these legal agreements such as fees or taxes. Friendships probably helped.

The actual date of James Dunn's appearance in the northern colonies and how he arrived there is quite a mystery. This is not unusual, since I previously mentioned that searching for ancestors becomes more problematic as we reach further back into time.

There are sources of information from many other Dunn researchers that have documented James as being born in Mansfield, Connecticut in 1680. I have presented an argument to their date of his presence in the colonies as well as his place of birth in the appendix. The evidence that I describe only presents new information that may or may not be an absolute truth in relation to James Dunn's arrival date to the colonies. In other words, I might be wrong. There is, however, documented historic information that William Dunn, the son of James Dunn, was from the town of Mansfield. The town of Mansfield was originally created from a section of the town of Windham, Connecticut. Mansfield was incorporated in May of 1703.

The following describes the early day way of plotting out a new town in the wilderness of the new colonies. The methods of Colonial Township development demonstrates how the people believed in democracy for the whole of the community. This description of town chartering is a portion of an historical document written by Miss Ellen D. Larned in April of 1875.

[In the autumn of 1691 application was made for a town charter, but the grant was not immediately made. In the following spring, however, the petition was granted. The general court of Connecticut on the 12<sup>th</sup> of May, 1692, enacting that township privileges be granted to the petitioners, and that the town should be called Windham. Under the new charter the first public town meeting was held June 12, 1692. At the first town meeting Joshua Ripley was chosen town clerk: Jeremiah Ripley, Jonathan Crane and Jonathan Huogh, townsmen: Thomas Huntigton and John Royce, surveyors: Joseph Huntington, Jonathan Hough, Samuel Hide and John Fitch, to lay out highways. A committee was also appointed to carry on negotiations with a minister in regard to settlement among them.

Previous to the settlement of a minister Mr. Jabez Fitch officiated as religious leader. The house of Mr. John Fitch, the latest and probably the best built house in the settlement, was selected to be the meeting house until other provisions should be made. The growth of the settlement was such that at its town meeting May 30<sup>th</sup>, 1693, the list of approved inhabitants numbered twenty-two. A public pound was provided and burying grounds were laid out, one at each settlement. Jonathan Ginnings and the Ripleys were granted the privilege of setting up a sawmill at N-man's acre Brook. In December the town passed regulations in regard to fences, cattle, swine, timber and the warning of town meeting. In the following spring we have the first record of the lay-out of a highway. A military company was founded, of which John Fitch was lieutenant, Jonathan Crane was ensign, and Samuel Hide sergeant.]

Thus a new town was born. Windham today, minus the town of Mansfield, has a population of about 23,000

## INDIANS IN COLONIAL CONNECTICUT:

There were many Indian paths that followed the Connecticut River from the Massachusetts border all the way South to the Atlantic seaports. All along the paths were towns and planting fields of the Sequin Indian tribes. There was a Southeast section from the Connecticut River that was occupied by the Mohegan and Pequot tribes. There were other tribes that occupied the lands west of the Connecticut river. The Sequin Indians farmed their lands, hunted and ate varieties of wild plants.

Many of these Indian paths soon became wider when the pioneers brought their horses, cattle and pigs to the river country. Some eventually became modern highways of today. Highway 91 today closely follows the old Indian trails along the Connecticut river.

The Sequin Indians were initially friendly and shared land with the new English settlers. Generally, after many years, there were treaties made with the Indians, where the tribes received monetary compensation for the lands that they lost.

The Connecticut Indians had dome shaped dwellings built from saplings that were placed in the ground around a large circle. The saplings were then bent over and fastened together at the center of the circle. Tree barks were then placed upon the saplings for shelter. A hole at the center of the dwelling was left to allow campfire smoke to escape. The women would weave mats that were used to cover the dwelling. This type of dwelling, wigwam, was necessary due to the harsh winters of Connecticut.

There were however, troubles at times with the Indians. In April 1637, a party of Pequots attacked a number of settlers in the town of Wethersfield. The Indians killed six men and three women. The Indians canoed down the Connecticut River and displayed the clothing of their victims as they passed by a military fort.

Ninety men from the fort, and eighty Mohawk braves were assigned to track down the Pequot Tribe. The Pequot's were found and most were killed. About sixty of seventy escaped. Most that escaped were later captured and beheaded by the Mohawks. All of the Indian women and children were released to safety prior to the attack.

There is an historic story of how the Mohawk tribes became friends with the new Pioneers. A Mohawk had once been captured by the Milford Indians. They tied the Mohawk to a stake in a meadow and left him to be eaten by the mosquitoes. A white settler, named Hine, came along and cut him free. Hine gave him food and water and helped him to escape. The Mohawks were forever grateful for the gesture of the white man. It was estimated that about 2,200 Mohawks were in Connecticut in the early 1600's. By 1910 there were only 22. Many American Indians were infected and died from diseases that the pioneers brought with them to the new colonies.

There were also Puritans in the early 1600's that established new communities along or near the Connecticut River. These Puritans had escaped to Connecticut in order to live their religious beliefs away from the control of the Massachusetts English authorities. There were nine women and two men executed as witches in Connecticut from the year 1648 to 1663. These witchcraft executions took place in the town of Windsor.

In 1639 the inhabitants of the three towns of Hartford, Wethersfield and Windsor met at Hartford and drew up the first written constitution in America, which was a form of government made "by the people and for the people." The object of the document was to provide and maintain a peace and union statute for the new settlers of the Connecticut Colony. The document did not contain any hint or mention of the control of the Connecticut lands by the English King. It was a declaration that they would bow to no other authority other than to their selves and to their maker. This document eventually became a benchmark for the United States Constitution.

The pioneers that first arrived along the Connecticut River generally dug out a cavernous opening on a hill and would then build a wooden covering in preparation for the coming winter storms. Each day they would build a fire in front of the cave to keep warm during the cold of nights. They would soon cut down the large trees of the forest and build their log cabins.

Sawmills later became available where cut timber could be used for more permanent housing. These sawmills used the power of the rivers to rotate their waterwheels that rotated the cutting saws. A typical home might be one and a half stories high. The timber siding might be covered with clapboard. Clapboard being similar to shingles, except it was elongated in length. A large stone chimney was generally placed at the center of the house. Some chimnies were built from wood and covered with mortar.

A fireplace or sometimes a metal stove was placed at the center of the house to provide heat and a place for cooking. A bedroom was usually placed on one side of the house for the parents to use. The children would sleep in a loft that was placed above the main living room. These homes provided little privacy due to the usual large number of family members in colonial New England. Most of the crops that they grew were wheat, barley and corn. They also raised cattle and hogs. The cows provided milk and butter for the family. Generally, these families were quite large.

In 1700 there were about 100,000 people in the New England territory. By 1750 there were about 350,000 people living in the territory. The increase in the number of people was mostly due to the increase in family size and new immigrants. Many adults lived over 60 years of age. These people did not have any type of prescription drugs other than blackstrap molasses.

William Dunn, the son of James, was born about 1717 in Mansfield, Connecticut. At some point in time, William moved to Enfield, Connecticut, which is on the eastside of the Connecticut River near the borderline of Massachusetts. Enfield is about 35 miles from Mansfield.

He married Esther about the year of 1742 in Enfield. Esther's last name is unknown. As was the nature of the people of those days, William and Esther had a very large family. The children that were born in Enfield were Esther, William, Thomas, Hannah, Simeon, Molle and Samuel. The seven children mentioned were born between 1743 to 1755. Five other children were born later on in Sussex County, New Jersey.

It might be assumed that William made a living as a farmer. That may be true, however, he also did a great amount of land transactions during his stay at Enfield. Land speculation was very enterprising during those early days in Connecticut. The following are some land contracts that were recorded in historic Enfield Public Documents.

William Dunn of Mansfield Conn. purchased from James MacCarter of Windsor Conn. 127 acres in Enfield and partly in Somers.

No recorded date given.

William Dunn of Windsor Conn. purchased from James MacCarter, 20 acres in Somers  
Recorded Feb. 5, 1742.

William Dunn of Windsor Conn. purchased from Jonathan Bement, 26 acres in Enfield and Somers, and 20 acres in Somers.

Recorded Sept. 18, 1744.

William Dunne (actually Dunn) of Windsor Conn. sold to Jonathan Bement 127 acres in Enfield and partly in Somers..

Recorded Sept. 18, 1744

William Dunn purchased from Jonathan Bement, a total of 147 acres in Enfield. The total land was from three parcels.

Recorded Oct. 8, 1745

It appears that William Dunn sold the original purchase of 127 acres to Jonathan Bement. Jonathan (John) Bement was one of the original pioneers of Enfield Township who were allotted lands. I do not have any recorded sales for the other three properties that he owned. William may have used the money from the sale of the 127 acres to purchase the 147 acres from Jonathan Bement.

There is another record that was entered in the court of Enfield regarding William Dunn. "Upon the petition of William Dunn, of Enfield, in the county of Hartford, vs. James Goudey, of Enfield aforesaid, on file: The question was put, whether the prayer of the said petition should be granted: Resolved by this assembly in the negative. Cost allowed respondent is 4 pounds, 3 shillings lawful money. Ex. granted Nov. 6<sup>th</sup> 1754. It sounds like William lost the lawsuit.

## The First Major War

I believe that I should include in my Dunn family story the wars that our country has been involved in. The wars are a major part of our history and a few Dunn's have been involved in some of them in a major way.

The first major war was the French and Indian War that occurred during the middle 1700's. This was not a war as we generally think of as defending our nation against our enemies. There was no nation within the English colonies at that time. The colonies along the eastern Atlantic coast were part of the English Empire. The army that engaged the French and the Indians were under the control of the English King, King George II.

There had actually been three previous wars that were referred to as the Kings and a Queen's wars. These wars occurred between 1688 to 1748. The early wars were fairly long disputes between the French and English governments over the new American lands. The French Indian war really set the stage for ending French domination within the American colonies.

The French initially had claims of the lands of the Great Lakes and the Ohio River valley. The English had for some time realized that future settlements were going to be made out in the west throughout the Ohio valley area, which were due to the rich lands available for farming. The French had made alliances with the Indian tribes of the Ohio region, so any thought of an invasion of the French would also require fighting the Indians.

During the middle 1700's, a young Virginia officer, George Washington, was sent out to deliver a letter to a French fort in upper Pennsylvania. The letter demanded that the French leave the region. The French refused and the French and Indian War commenced.

Much of the war during 1757 was being fought along the Great Lakes, in Quebec and along the Saint Lawrence River. The atrocities of the Indians made headlines in all of the major newspapers. Families would have their children stolen away by the Indians and descriptions of atrocities, such as scalplings were quite common. The news must have had a devastating affect on families near to where the battles were being fought.

I believe that the war may have had an impact on the decision for William to sell his property and move his wife and young children to Sussex County New Jersey. There were many English military fortifications that had been established along the Delaware River during the War that were adjacent to Sussex County. These fortifications provided safety for the families that lived along, or near the river.

Since William purchased such a large tract of land in 1745, it would seem that he had been planning to stay in the town of Enfield. I don't have any records of land that William sold in Enfield after 1745. Any plans for his family's future must have changed radically in order to take such a long journey westward to New Jersey. I would think that it must have had a great deal to do with the news about the nearby war. The reports in the newspapers on the war often shifted from good news to bad news, and then again back to good news. The future of the war was often very uncertain. So why would anyone in those dangerous days take such a large family and travel over treacherous roads to the far off land of northern, New Jersey? But William did just that.

In the winter of 1756 there were Indian raids on rural farming towns within the wilderness of the Pennsylvania frontiers. Over four hundred men were killed and many women and children were taken captive and carried into the western wilderness. This area is today near the town of Allentown. Allentown is about 50 miles South West of Sussex County, New Jersey. The Delaware Indians were angry over having lost their hunting grounds. A middle aged militia Colonel, named Benjamin Franklin (the historical Benjamin Franklin) along with his son, Captain William Franklin, led a band of 530 troops, many who were Scotch-Irish, into the cold rainy wilderness in order to establish protective military posts. It was a dangerous adventure due to the rains, which could possibly make the flint firing mechanisms in their muskets inoperable.

Colonel Franklin, directed the building of a line of simple circular log structured forts that were used to protect the remote farm communities from Indian attacks. Holes were drilled about the wood forts such that shots could be fired at the Indians. It was well known that Indians were very reluctant to attack a village that was protected by army forts. The Indians left the area and the farmers soon returned to their villages. By early spring an English army command was able to remove all of the Delaware Indians from the area.

The Indian problems ended after a treaty was established in 1758. The French army had left and the Indians had lost their hunting and burial lands. They were given certain rights to hunt, fish and live in designated areas.

There were quite a few Scotch-Irish families that traveled from New Jersey to Connecticut during the 1700's. William may have received information about the Northern New Jersey lands from these people. He might have been able to read about New Jersey from the Boston newspapers. It would seem that he must have had some knowledge of what was awaiting him when he later traveled to New Jersey.

The road along the Connecticut River was called the Boston Post Road. This crude road was completed in 1673. It was built in order to deliver mail between New York and Boston. The distance between New York to Boston along the road was about 250 miles. The early Post Road was nothing more than a rough pathway that usually followed old Indian trails. The journey of the first post delivery by horseback took four weeks. Stagecoach delivery, which started in 1772, took just one week. Evidently the roads were much improved by 1772. Much of today's US Highway 91 travels along the old Boston Post Road.

William must have moved his family sometime during 1756. William and Esther's daughter, Molle, was born in Enfield on July 29, 1755. Son, Levi, was born in Sussex County, New Jersey in about 1757.

William and Esther must have been quite desperate to take such a journey when Molle, their youngest, was just a babe in arms. The other five children would only have been between the ages of about five to twelve years old. It would seem logical that they would be traveling with other families. The countryside woods in those days did not provide safe journeys for families traveling alone.

I suspect that the Post Road was a tough road to travel in those days. The Conestoga Wagons, called the prairie schooners in the 1800's, were sold for the first time in 1750. Earlier wagons were comparable in feature to the Conestoga, but were not as reliable and useful for carrying heavy loads. William's family may have had one or more of the earlier wagons for their transportation or possibly just a wooden horse drawn cart.

Traveling with a wagon in the early days was not how they are depicted in Hollywood movies. At most, only two people, and maybe a small child or two, would sit at the helm of the wagon and direct the horses. The rest of the family would either ride horseback, or walk. I would think there must have been at least two wagons needed for the journey in order to carry most of the very young children. The family would want to keep as many tools, bedding, food and other needed items that could reasonably be carried in the available wagons. Some family items were most likely left behind.

The one rout that I believe they took was down the Old Post Road along the Connecticut River to the town of Meriden, Connecticut. Meriden was a farming community of very few families at that time. They then traveled west along another road which would eventually have taken them to the town of Fishkill, New York. Leaving Fishkill and passing the Hudson River via a ferry would lead the family to the town of Newburgh. The family would then travel west to Port Jervis, New York and then down, along the Old Mine Road, to Sussex County. The old mine road was developed in the 1600's by early Dutch settlers for transporting copper ore from their mines to the Hudson River at Kingston, New York.

The travelers in those days had to know pretty much where they were going. Most of the road signs in those days were markers on large rocks. There were maps that were available that might have helped the traveler, somewhat, to keep on a steady course.

Today you can travel along the Connecticut River on interstate 91 and purchase a Duncan donut about every thirty miles.

The distance from Enfield to Sussex County, New Jersey is about 230 miles. I would estimate that it must have taken the William Dunn family at least four weeks or more to travel the total distance. The travel experiences to Sussex County must have been an event that the family would talk about for many years.

In 1750 there were scarcely 600 people living in the whole Sussex region. Sussex was originally part of Warren County, which was later divided into the counties of Sussex and Warren.

The road that the William Dunn family took back in the middle 1700's was just the very first step towards the west, when many years later, other Dunn ancestors of my family would travel on in the same direction towards the shores of the Pacific Ocean.

By 1760 the English Army had removed the French from the American continent. The signing of the "Treaty of Paris" took place on February 10, 1763. The English government had final total control, with a few stipulations, of all North America east of the Mississippi. Imagine the consequences if the French had defeated the English during the war. Our country's history would be entirely different and we would probably all be speaking the French language.

The war was very costly to both the English and the French governments. The English King had to borrow enormous amounts of money from the English banks. All moneys in those days were in coinage, generally in gold. . They could not print money the way our government does today in order to pay for the cost of wars.

The English government felt that the colonies benefited the most from the success of the war and thus they should be taxed the most in order to pay for the enormous debts. The taxation and excessive import duty fees that the colonies had to pay would eventually produce the cause of the Revolutionary War just thirteen years after the Treaty of Paris was signed. History would also turn around and provide a French ally for the Colonial Government's future war.

The settlers of the early northern colonies were very proficient in establishing democratic governance within their new communities. The schooling and knowledge that they acquired from their homelands provided the proper background for establishing a solid foundation of local governmental laws.

When Sussex County was organized in 1782, the entire population of the State of New Jersey was less than forty-eight thousand. Scotch-Irish people populated much of the state. There were no schools and few roads.

One of the local ministers, Reverend Kanouse described the conditions of that day. [In the log cabins of the pioneers of this country there was no furniture to dazzle without profit. Oiled paper might serve for window glass, a pail of water for a mirror, a pine-knot for a candle, and the wheel and the loom made the music of the family. The father supplied the flax and the wool, and the fair hands of our mothers and their daughters furnished the cloth and the ready-made garment. They were rich in their own resources. Their wants were few and simple. The trencher and the wooden bowl were the china, and pewter was the silverware of the family, with milk and water for their tea, a burnt crust for their coffee, and brown bread for their cake. Of course, with such a generation, the physician had but little to do. If privation and toil were their companion, health was the reward.]

By the 1770s, most of the Indians had sold their lands to the new settlers and moved to the North. New emigrants that came to Sussex County felt little danger from the remaining Indians. The name Sussex was in regard to the County of Sussex, England. Wallpack, Newton and Flatbrookville were the townships that were formed within Sussex County.

In about the year 1750 there was a man by the name of Henry Hairlocker that settled near the present township of Newton. His cabin was miles away at that time from the nearest village. The New Jersey State legislators had previously established the land around Hairlocker's cabin as the place for the future Sussex County Seat. Lucky for Hairlocker, since the value of his land was surely due to go up in value.

Hairlocker soon had new neighbors. In 1753 there was a new tavern that was open for business and a court of Justice was established in Sussex County. Five Judges were commissioned. Each Judge was also empowered to act as a Justice of the Peace. Tavern licenses were provided and innkeeper rates for liquors were established. The business of tavern keeping was a stepping-stone for public distinction. Many judges, justices and sheriffs became innkeepers.

As would be expected, a jail was built near a tavern, owned by Jonathan Pettit, at a total cost of 41 pounds. Prisoners easily escaped due to the cheap construction of the jail. For many years the county had to pay creditors for the money they lost from the escaped debtor prisoners.

William Dunn and his family arrived at the town of Newton, New Jersey. I do not have any statistics about the town's population at that time. However, I would believe that the town had to be very small when William and his family arrived. It might have just been a small settlement of log homes without a community name.

A few marauding Indians still presented threats to the early settlers after the French were removed from Sussex County. The Indians were angry over the loss of their lands and were resentful to the restrictions placed upon them within the boundaries of the reservations they were forced to live within.

The following is an event in Sussex County that occurred in June of 1774 at the log house of Daniel Deck and his wife, Grietje. [Grietje was standing in front of the house boiling soap in a pan. Daniel came rushing up to warn Grietje that Indians were coming up towards the house. He frantically told her to hide while he next found a hollow log to crawl into. Grietje was made of stern stuff and continued to boil her soap.. Two Indians appeared and approached Grietje with their scalping knives. When one of the Indians was almost upon her, she reached her ladle into the boiling soap and dashed it squarely into his face. The Indian let out a howl and raced towards a nearby brook to sooth his pain. The Indian's partner came forward and also received a like proportion of the boiling soap into his face. He too turned and ran to the presumed comfort of the brook. The savages had just discovered a different method of warfare. The Indians did fire the cabin but never attempted to approach Grietje and her ladle. Local history claims that Daniel crawled out the hollow log and said "Didn't we fix 'em though.]

It is interesting to note that superstitions were quite prevalent in the middle 1700's. There were witch doctors that were noted for their ability to cure diseases by the laying on of hands. Some were called "finger doctors" that could create the same miracles by just one finger. Families who had a seventh son were lucky, since seventh sons were believed to have abilities to cure diseases.

The belief in any active activities on the Sabbath was sinful and against common religious laws within early American Colonies. No idle talk, writing, sewing or leisure walking was allowed and could be severely penalized. An old saying that does not go too far back was, "don't use scissors on Sunday." There was a case in 1750 when a Justice of the Peace entered a room where a man's daughter was caught writing by candlelight on the Sabbath. The Justice chastised the two and left in an outrage. The next morning the man and his daughter were arrested and brought before a magistrate and fined 18 shillings for Sabbath breaking.

Four more children were born to William and Esther in Sussex County. The children were Levi, about 1757, Joseph, Aug. 22, 1762, Ann, unknown date, and Sarah, 1767. Joseph is my 4<sup>th</sup> great-grandfather. He became the local Constable in Sussex County.

Most of the information that I have, related to William, are in regards to tax assessments of property that he owned. In 1773 William was taxed for owning eighty acres, six horses and cattle in Newton Township. There are tax records for William's son Thomas, who had twenty-five acres and three cattle in Newton. Thomas, who was born in 1747, would have been about 27 years of age at that time. The 1773 tax assessment that William received for eighty acres and six horses was getting very close to the beginning of the America Revolutionary War.

I have an 1802 land deed that describes property. "Being near a log house on the Papacotting Creek, where Thomas Dunn lives, and on the corner where Robert Mathews fence is, West of the Chimney of Benajah Gustin's log house and West from the chimney of Mathews Log House." The property was described in the ledger as "the good-for-nothing meadow".

That was pretty much how people recorded property locations in those days. I would imagine there were many property line disputes later on that would keep the lawyers busy for many years. However, the document does show that Thomas Dunn had a log house in 1802 along Papacotting Creek, which runs through the town of Newton. Newton, today, is the county seat of Sussex County.

The type of log house described as belonging to Thomas Dunn may have been quite prevalent in Sussex County during the middle seventeen hundreds. However, most of the log homes were built from split logs in order to provide a greater amount of lumber to build a home. The split logs would provide a rough flat exterior appearance to the home. There were some very fine homes and buildings that were built in the colonies during the 1700's are still in existence today.

William's daughter, Esther, married a Mr. Francis Price. Francis Price was from a family that had traveled from Connecticut to New Jersey. He became a local county judge and officiated in the marriage of Joseph and his wife Rachel Matthar. Other marriages from the docket of Squire Francis Price were Levi, who married Mary Parker and William Jr., who married Ruth Sanders. I would imagine that Francis must have been quite a catch for Esther.

The middle 1700's in Sussex County were not entirely safe from native Delaware Indian attacks. In May of 1756 Anthony Swarwhout, his wife and daughter were slain by the savages. Two of the children became Indian captives. Anthony had been an officer in the British colonial service and had been obnoxious to the Indians. The Indian problems did end when a treaty was made in 1758 where a reservation was established for them where they could live, hunt and fish. By 1832, there remained only about 40 living Delaware Indians.

A few years ago, my wife Donna, her sister Jean and I traveled back to Sussex County. New Jersey today is noted for being one of the most congested populated states in the country. However, the northwestern corner of Sussex County, is like going back into time. The area that we traveled through is called the Wallpack Township.

The Delaware River straddles along the northwestern length of Wallpack Township. Wallpack has the appearance that it must have had over two hundred years ago. There was an unfortunate event in the 1960's when many homes were removed to make room for the construction of a new dam on the Delaware River. However, the dam was never built.

It would seem that William Dunn would have been quite satisfied with his new life in Newton, New Jersey. But for some reason many in the family moved on into the Wyoming Valley, which is in the northern part of Pennsylvania. I suspect that they had a desire for larger tracts of land. The Wyoming Valley is about 50 to 70 miles north west of Sussex County.

The Wyoming Valley was originally believed to be a western part of Connecticut that was allotted in 1662 by King Charles II of England. The early 1600 maps of the colonies were very inaccurate and the King did not realize that the northern part of the colony of Pennsylvania also included the Wyoming Valley. This caused serious disputes between the early Pennsylvanian settlers (Pennamites) and the colonials from Connecticut. By the 1750's the land in Connecticut was filling up rapidly. There was thus a great desire for many to travel out further into the western lands of the Wyoming Valley.

There was an organization called "The Susquehannah Company" that was chartered in 1753 at Windham, Connecticut, to establish large tracts of land along the Susquehannah River. The land was to be subdivided into smaller parcels for future Connecticut citizens. The company procured, what was later called dubious, Indian deeds to large tracts of land along the Susquehannah River. The allotted land amounted to about one-third of the entire colony of Pennsylvania. Connecticut's governor, Governor Trumbull, received a favorable reply from the English King for the settlement in 1773.

Governor Trumbull then sought to acquire an agreement with the Governor of Pennsylvania. The Pennsylvania's Governor's response was in the negative.

The dispute over the land between the Connecticut settlers and the people of Pennsylvania eventually ended up in intermittent battles, which were called the Yankee-Pennamite Wars. This conflict started in February 1769 and ended during the American Revolution. A compromise act was finally agreed upon in 1799 where the Connecticut settlers were legally allowed to own their original property rights.

It is important to realize that land ownership was the necessity for a respectful existence in the New England Colonies. A person without land was doomed to a meager life and the charity from others. Land ownership gave a man a certain amount of pride for himself and his family. Most available Connecticut farmable land in the middle 1700's was selling at a premium. The call of free farmland in the Wyoming Valley would have been like cold water to a thirsty man. There were also land speculators in those days who were looking for a few fast pounds. ( pounds = gold weight )

There is an August 1776 tax list for the Wilkes-Barre District in the Wyoming Valley that identifies William Dunn and William Dunn Jr. William Dunn Jr. appears on a 1777 and a 1778 tax list at Wilkes-Barre. William Dunn does not appear on the 1777 tax list. William Dunn would have been about 60 years old in 1777. I would guess that by 1777, my 5<sup>th</sup> great grandfather, William, may have faded away into eternity. A sixty-year-old man in those days would have had a very full life.

William must have had the desire to speculate in land. He had a great opportunity for having lived during the very early days in Connecticut when large amounts of land were available at a reasonable price. He then moved on to Sussex County, New Jersey after land in Connecticut became very expensive. He may have done quite well in Sussex County with only 600 people living there when he arrived in 1757. Then in his later years he traveled off to the new Connecticut settlements in the Wyoming Valley for possibly a new adventure in land speculation. Land speculation in those early days was a very profitable venture for many people. And so it may have been with William. However, William's last move to the Wyoming Valley became a terrible tragedy for the Dunn family. I will describe later on in greater detail the great historic event that struck so many families within the Wyoming Valley during the Revolutionary War.

Donna, Jean and I visited the Wyoming Valley during our trip to New Jersey. The present day Wyoming Valley is an amalgamation of many of the original townships that were established by the early settlers. Most of the homes and downtown business buildings are of very early twentieth century architecture with a few new retail outlets and restaurants sprinkled though out each township. The three major towns in the area are WilkesBarre, Nanticoke and Kingston. Many of descendants of the William Dunn family eventually migrated to the Wyoming Valley after the Revolutionary war. I checked out the local telephone book and found a quite large number of Dunn names listed in the directory.

The English government built up tremendous debts from the costs of the ten-year French Indian war. The Colonial people became enraged towards the demand of the English Parliament when they were required to help pay for the costs of the French Indian Wars.

King George III and the English Parliament also had heavy debts to pay for the long battles with the French Government, which occurred within Europe. Also, the Colonies were increasingly becoming more independent while England had been entangled with her battles with France.

The Parliament established a series of taxes and import duty fees as well as military bullying that agitated the colonists. However, it was the tax act on tea that caused the greatest emotion within the colonies. The people loved their tea and were not willing to pay an exorbitant fee for their favorite brew.

On one night in December 1773, there were about two-hundred local men that dressed up as Indians that descended on three ships in Boston Harbor. They dumped all of the cargoes of tea from the three ships into the harbor. The owners of the ships, the East India Company assumed tremendous financial losses. The English Parliament reacted with greater military control and higher taxation over the Colonies.

Further animosity evolved within the Colonies over the next two years. Then in July 4, 1776 the animosity changed to war when the Declaration of Independence was presented to the English government. The actual authorization of the Declaration of Independence was made official when thirty-two men signed their names at the bottom of the document. These men realized that they would all lose their lives if the war did not result in their independence. Many did suffer the consequences of the inevitable war.

A curious situation occurred during the ensuing war. The French Government became allied with the new government of the United States and became a major player in the independence of our new nation. Benjamin Franklin spent most of the Revolutionary War as our Ambassador to France. It had not been that long before that the English Colonies were fighting the French and Indian Wars.

There were a few situations during the war of independence that influenced the success of our new nation. General Washington had many of his soldiers inoculated against smallpox. The disease was rampant during the war, causing many deaths within the English army. The French navy was able to prevent many English supply ships from entering the seaports of the eastern colonies. Also, France, Spain and the Netherlands provided financial assistance to the colonial army. Privateers also hampered British shipping. England was also financially broken by the constant wars at home. Finally, English political support for the war ended and a treaty was ratified on January 1784.

The four oldest sons of William Dunn that participated in the successful war of independence from English rule were Thomas, Samuel, William Jr. and Levi. William's son, Simeon, seems to have drifted off into the unknown. Simeon's name does appear very briefly later on, however, he is pretty much lost into history.

I have little information about Thomas Dunn's revolutionary army career other than he did enlist and became a teamster (wagonmaster).

Son Samuel, enlisted in the New Jersey State troops for one year in December 1775 at his home in Newton, New Jersey. He was under the command of Colonel Maxwell's Regiment of Newton, New Jersey. This command was often referred to as the Jersey Blues. The regiment later marched from Newton to Quakertown and then to Trenton, New Jersey, where they encamped into January, the following year. The command was later ordered to travel to Quebec, Canada, where they arrived sometime in February. They made one attack at Quebec and then retreated to the town of Sorel, Canada. Samuel then contracted smallpox and was laid up at Montreal and later at Ticonderoga. Samuel recuperated at Ticonderoga and was later discharged at the end of his enlistment in December of 1776. He soon reenlisted for an additional six months and served under Colonel Maxwell's son, Lieutenant James Maxwell. The regiment marched to Albany, New York and later to Philadelphia and then to Easton, Pennsylvania. He was later discharged in June 1777.

Samuel's experience at Ticonderoga was most probably the historical attack on Quebec City by an expedition that was led by Colonel Benedict Arnold, when about five-hundred men succumbed to smallpox. Colonel Arnold's troops were soundly defeated by the English.

Samuel then enlisted again, for nine months, in April, 1778 with the Pennsylvania State troopers at his new farm in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. He was then under the command of Colonel Zebulon Butler's regiment. Samuel's brothers, Thomas, William Jr. and Levi, were also enlisted as privates with Colonel Butler's regiment during the same period of time.

The types of militia enlistment that Thomas, Samuel, William Jr. and Levi had during the Revolutionary War were quite common. A volunteer would generally sign up with a local militia organization that would then be ordered to travel to and join in with a designated military command. Each militia was often given periods of time when they could return to their hometown so that each member could attend to his family and farm. General Washington did have a standing Army that was somewhat less than 17,000 at any one time.

The northern part of Pennsylvania was for the most part generally removed from the major battles that occurred during the war of independence. Most of the major battles occurred along the coastal regions and the waterways adjacent to Canada. The English army desperately required material reinforcements from the sea and could not tolerate risky incursions deep into the colonial lands. However, there were alliances made between the English and local Indian tribes that caused many festering problems within the colonies. The English used the same tactics that the French used several years before during the French and Indian wars. There were also Tories, English sympathizers, that were willing to fight along with the Indians.

The town of Wilkes-Barre is located along the eastern side of the Susquehanna River within the Wyoming Valley in northern Pennsylvania. The Susquehanna Company allotted each new settler a large plot of land. The land plots were laid out in such a way to be part of a future town. The price of each property was probably much more reasonable than its equivalent back in Enfield, Connecticut. The low prices of property must have been the enticement for William Dunn to move to the Wyoming Valley. There were also a few colonial settlements that had been established along the river during earlier times.

There was a Wilkes-Barre Fort along the eastern side of the river and another military fort, called Forty-Fort on the western side of the river. The 24<sup>th</sup> Connecticut Militia Regiment was organized to defend the valley from Tories and Indians. However, there were well known Tories that lived as neighbors within the communities.

In June of 1778, A Major Butler marched from Buffalo, New York with an estimated one hundred Tory Rangers and six hundred Indians towards the northern end of the Wyoming Valley. Several men and boys who were working in a cornfield detected the troops. Eight were able to escape and alarm the Militia at Forty-Fort about the nearby Tory troops.

On July 3, Friday morning, the commander at Forty Fort, Colonel Nathan Denison and Colonel Zebulon Butler marched off with four-hundred militia men to confront the Tories and Indians. Major Butler had previously tried to convince the Connecticut Militia to surrender, but without success. There were arguments of capitulation between the two Colonels, but prudence was ultimately viewed as cowardice, and the militia marched northward along the western side of the river. Later on they could see columns of smoke where abandoned houses to the north were burning.

Meanwhile, the Tories had taken positions behind a log fence that provided a defense from the coming Connecticut Militiamen. The Indians concealed themselves in a swamp at the western end of the fence.

The advancing Connecticut Militia halted to fire their first volley. They would advance after each volley and then stop and fire another volley. The Tories fired their first volley when the militiamen were ready to fire their fourth volley. At that point the Indians emerged from the swamp and attacked towards the vulnerable left flank of the militiamen. There was total confusion within the ranks and shouted orders only caused mass confusion. Men were both killed when they ran and even when they stopped to surrender. Colonel Denison estimated that 301 militiamen were killed that day.

It has been estimated that the entire battle only lasted about one-half an hour. Colonel Denison surrendered at Forty Fort the next day to the Tories. It was agreed upon that civilians would not be harmed. However, the Indians attacked civilian farms just as soon as the Tory army left the Wyoming Valley. The Wyoming massacre had started.

The following news was reported in the Boston Gazette on Monday, August 3, 1778. The news item relates to the reports that Wyoming refugees were telling about their experiences to Poughkeepsie New York reporters on July 20, 1778. Some of the information that I have researched about this event are contrary to the Boston Gazette report. However, any contrary comments related the massacre at Wyoming may have been purposeful on the part of Tory sympathizers. I do tend to believe that the evidence of many people that were escaping from the Wyoming Valley must provide credence to the reality of the massacre.

**[POUGHKEEPSIE, July 20.**

Since our last, many of the distressed Refugees from the Wyoming settlements on the Susquehanna, who escaped the general massacre, of the inhabitants, have passed this way, from whom we have collected the following account, viz.

Previous to the narrative, it may be necessary to inform some of our readers, that this settlement was made by the people of Connecticut on a grant of lands purchased by the inhabitants of that colony, under the sanction of the government of the Indian proprietors; and that these lands falling within the limits of the Pennsylvania claim, a DISPUTE concerning the right has arisen, between the two governments, and proceeded to frequent acts of hostility. When it was at a height that threatened the disturbance of the other governments, Congress interposed, by whose recommendations and authority, the decision of the dispute was suspended, till that with Great Britain, equally interesting to every American State, was concluded, when there might be more leisure to attend to the other, and consider the justice of each claim.

On this footing the dispute has lain dormant for two or three years; the inhabitants lived happily and the settlements increased, consisting of eight townships, viz. Lackewana, Exeter, Kingston, Wilkesborough, Plymouth, Nanticoke, Huntington, and Salem, each containing five mile square. The six lower townships were pretty full of inhabitants, the two upper ones, had comparatively but few thinly scattered. The lands are exceedingly good, beautifully situated along both sides of the Susquehanna navigable for flat bottomed boats, and produced immense quantities of grain of all sorts, roots, fruits, hemp, flax, &c. and stock of all kinds in abundance. The settlement had lately supplied the Continental army with 3000 bushels of grain, and the ground was loaded with the most promising crops of every kind. The settlement included upwards of a thousand families which had furnished our army with a thousand soldiers, besides the garrisons of four forts, in the township of Lockewany, Exeter, Kingston & Wilkesborough. One of these forts was garrisoned by upwards of 400 soldiers, chiefly of the militia, the principal officers in which were Colonels Dennison and Zebulon Butler.

The Tories and Inhabitants had given some disturbances to these settlement last year, before Gen. Herkemer's battle at Oneida Creek near Fort Stanwix and our skirmishes soon after with parties of the enemy at and near Schohary, when they were dispersed and the Tories concealed themselves among our different settlements; the people here remained undisturbed during the rest of the year.

About this time the inhabitants having discovered that many of these villainous Tories who had stirred up the Indians, and been with them in fighting against us, were within the settlement, 27 of them were in January last, taken up and secured. Of these 18 were sent to Connecticut, the rest, after being detained some time, and examined, were for want of sufficient evidence set at liberty; they immediately joined the enemy, and became active in raising in the Indians, a spirit of hostility against us. This disposition soon after began to appear in the behaviour of the Tories and Indians, which gave the people apprehensions of danger, and occasioned some preparations for defence.

The people had some frequent intimations that the Indians had some mischievous designs against them but their fears were somewhat abated by the seeming solicitude of the Indians to preserve peace; they sent down at different times several parties with declarations of their peaceable disposition towards us, and to request the like on our part towards them. They were always dismissed with assurances that there was no design to disturb them. But one of those Indians getting drunk, said he and the other messengers, were only sent to amuse the people in the settlement but that the Indians intended as soon as they were in order to attack them. On this the Indian men were confined, and the women sent back with a flag. In March, appearances, became more alarming, and the scattered families settled for 30 miles up the river, were collected and brought into the more populous parts. In April and May, strolling parties of Indians and Tories, about 30 and under in a company, made frequent incursions into the settlements, robbing and plundering the inhabitants of provision, grain and livestock. In June, several persons being at work on a farm, from which the tory inhabitants had gone to the enemy, were attacked, and one man of them was killed; soon after, a woman (wife of one of the 27 tories before mentioned) was killed with her five children, by a party of these Tories and Indians, who plundered the house of everything they could take away and destroyed the rest.

On the 1<sup>st</sup> instant (July) the whole body of the enemy consisting, it is supposed of near 1600 (about 300 of whom were thought to be Indians, under their own chiefs; the rest Tories, painted like them, except their officers, who were dressed like regulars) the whole under the command of Col. John Butler, (a Connecticut Tory, and cousin to Col. Z. Butler, the second in command in the settlement) came down near the upper fort, but concealed the greatest part of their number; here they had a skirmish with the inhabitants, who took and killed two Indians, and lost ten of their own men, three of whom they afterwards found killed, scalped, and mangled in the most inhuman manner.

Thursday, July 2. The enemy appeared on the mountains, back of Kingston, where the women and children then fled into the fort. Most of the garrison of Exeter fort were Tories, who treacherously gave it up to the enemy. The same night, after a little resistance, they took Lackewana fort, killed Squire Jenkins and his family, with several others, in a barbarous manner, and made prisoners of most of the women and children, a small number only escaped.

Friday, July 3. This morning Col. Zebulon Butler, leaving a small number to guard the fort, (Wilkesbury) crossed the river with about 400 men, and marched into Kingston fort. The enemy sent in a flag demanding the surrender of the fort in two hours. Col. Butler answered he should not surrender, but was ready to receive them. They sent in a second flag, demanding an immediate surrender, otherwise the fort should be stormed, plundered and burnt, with all its contents, in a few hours – and said that they had with them 300 men.

Col. Z. Butler proposed a parley, which being agreed to, a place in Kingston was appointed for the meeting; to which Col. Z. Butler repaired with 400 men, well armed, but finding nobody there, he proceeded to the foot of the mountain, where at a distance he saw a flag, which as he advanced, retired as if afraid, 20 or 30 rods; he following, was led into an ambush, and partly surrounded by the enemy, who suddenly rose and fired upon them. Notwithstanding the great disproportion of 1600 to 400, he and his men bravely stood and return the fire for three quarters of an hour, with such briskness and resolution, that the enemy began to give way and were upon the point of retiring; when one of Col. Z. Butler's men, either through treachery or cowardice, cried out that the Colonel ordered a retreat – This caused a cessation of their fire, threw them into confusion and a total rout ensued. The greatest part fled to the river, which they endeavored to pass to Fort Wilkesbury, the enemy pursued them with the fury of Devils, many were lost or killed in the river, and no more than about 70, some of whom were wounded, escaped to Wilkesbury.

Saturday morning, July 4. The enemy sent 196 scalps into Fort Kingston, which they invested on the land side, and kept up a continual fire upon it. This evening Col. Z. Butler with his family quitted the fort and went down the river. Col. Nathan Denison went with a flag to Exeter fort, to know of Col. John Butler what terms he would grant on a surrender; Butler answered, THE HATCHET. Col. Dennison returned to Fort Kingston, which he defended till Sunday morning, when his men being nearly all killed or wounded, he could hold out no longer, and was obliged to surrender at discretion. The enemy took away some of the unhappy prisoners, and shutting up the rest in the houses, set fire to them, and they were all consumed together. These infernals then crossed the river to Fort Wilkesbury, which in a few minutes surrendered in discretion. About 70 of the men, who had listed in the Continental service to defend the frontiers, they inhumanly butchered, with every circumstance of horrid cruelty; and then shutting up the rest, with the women and children in the houses, they set fire to them, and they all perished together in the flames.

After burning all the buildings in the fort they proceeded to the destruction of every building and improvement (except what belonged to some Tories) that came within their reach, on all these flourishing settlements, which they have rendered a scene of desolation and horror almost beyond description, parrallel or credibility; and were not the facts attested by numbers of the unhappy sufferers, from different quarters of the settlement, and unconnected with each other, it would be impossible to believe that human nature could be capable of such prodigious enormity. When these miscreants had destroyed the other improvements, they proceeded to destroy the crops on the ground, letting in the cattle and horses to the corn, and cutting up as much as they could of what was left; great numbers of the cattle they shot and destroyed; and cutting out the tongues of many others, left them to perish in misery.

The course of these truly diabolical proceedings, was marked by many particular acts of distinguished enormity, among which were the following, viz.

The Captains James Bedlock, Robert Durgee, and Samuel Ranson, being made prisoners by the enemy – they stripped Captain Bedlock, tied him to a tree and stuck him full of sharp splinters of pine knots, then piling a heap of pine knots round him they set all on fire, put Durkee and Ranson into the fire and held them down with pitch forks.

Thomas Terry (whose father was killed by the Indians last war) with his own hands killed his own mother, his father-in-law, his sisters and families.

Partial Terry, the son of a man who bore a very respectable character, had several times sent his father word that he hoped to wash his hands in his heart's blood. Agreeable to such a horrid declaration, the monster, with his own hand, murdered his father, mother, brothers and sisters, stripped off their scalps, and cut off his father's head.

Col. Dennison was seen surrounded by the enemy, and was doubtless murdered. Col. Zebulon Butler is supposed to be the only officer escaped.

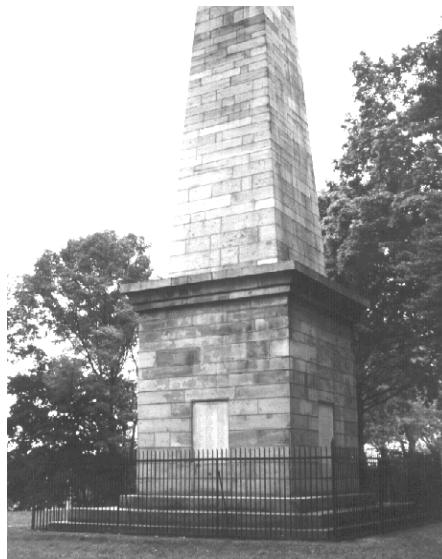
It is said he had several times written to the Congress and Gen. Washington, acquainting them with the danger the settlement were in, and requesting assistance; but that he received no answer, except that HE HAD NO CAUSE TO FEAR, SINCE THE INDIANS WERE ALL FOR PEACE AND QUITE ADVERSE TO WAR. However, he lately received a letter from Capt. Spaulding, acquainting him that neither the Congress nor Gen. Washington had received any of his letters, which had been intercepted by the Pennsylvania Tories, who in all probability acted in concert with these execrable miscreants against Wyoming: It is reported that these wretches, after completing their horrid business at Wyoming, are going or gone to Cherry Valley, and the parts adjacent.

We hear that a party of infernals of the like kind, have within this week or two, infested the parts about Leghowegh, near Rochester, on the Minisink road to Philadelphia, where a party of them, about 40 in number, have plundered and burnt several houses, abused some people, and carried off 3 men. It is hoped speedy and effectual measures will be taken to punish and extirpate these monsters in human shape, from the face of the earth.

The distresses of the surviving inhabitants of that late flourishing settlement are by their present circumstances, rendered such striking objects of charity, that withholding relief from them by those who are able to afford it, argues a criminal obduracy, which deserves, and may be punished by distresses of a similar kind.

We are told that of the 1000 men in the Continental army, who went from that settlement, their number is by sickness and the cruel usage of the prisons by the enemy, reduced to 400, who have now to lament the loss of their property, wives, children, and all that was dear to them in life! The helpless fugitives from the place, escaped with little more than their lives, they could bring nothing with them – hardly cloathes to cover them and nothing to eat, many were two or three days without sustenance, and pregnant women were delivered alone in the woods. This it is hoped will be the concluding scene of the tragedy acted by the British tyrant and his murderous, diabolical emissaries, in a part of his late kingdom, which he has justly forfeited, and which now forever departed from him.]

There is today a large monument in the town of Forty Fort that is dedicated to the fallen heroes that attempted to defend the Wyoming valley from the invaders in July 1778. The memorial marker reads: [Near this spot was fought, on the afternoon of the third of July, 1778, the battle of Wyoming. In which a small band of patriotic Americans, chiefly the undisciplined, the youthful, and the aged spared by inefficiency from the distant ranks of the republic. Led by Col. Zebulon Butler and Col. Nathan Denison. With a courage that deserved success, fearlessly met and bravely fought. A combined British, Tory and Indian force of thrice their number. Numerical superiority alone gave success the invader and widespread havoc, desolation and ruin, marked his savage and bloody footsteps through the valley. This monument commemorative of these events and in memory of the actors in them has been erected over the bones of the slain. By their descendants and others who gratefully appreciated the services and sacrifices of their patriot ancestors.



Some realities about the Revolution:

It is not often realized, from our perspective of a war that occurred over two hundred years ago, that there were many differences of opinions within the colonies as to an interest in engaging into a war with the English. It has been estimated that prior to the war, only about forty to forty-five percent of the population was greatly in favor of the conflict. There were at least fifteen to twenty percent of the people who were loyal to the English. The loyalists, known as Tories, consisted of about seventy thousand in number during the war. Most of the Tories left for Canada at the end of the conflict. Many people considered the revolution as a civil war.

The Continental Congress established the first regular army and appointed George Washington as commander-in-chief. Regular troops along with local Militias engaged the English Army throughout the eight years of the war. As many as five thousand African-Americans served on both sides of the conflict.

France, Spain and the Netherlands provided financial assistance to the Continental Army during the revolution. Both the French and the Netherlands became combatants against the British in various campaigns. Some have acknowledged that the war became international after the French and the Netherlands became involved. The British House of Commons voted to end the war after local English political support dwindled following their loss at Yorktown. The British Prime Minister, Lord North soon resigned afterwards. It has been estimated that about forty-two thousand British seamen deserted during the war.

More lives were lost during the Revolutionary War to disease than in battle. The North American smallpox epidemic killed more than 130,000 people. Washington's idea of inoculating his troops against smallpox may have been the single most important reason for winning the war. There were eight thousand American Revolutionaries who died in battle during the war. Seventeen thousand soldiers died from Disease.

Historians generally agree that the major disadvantages that the British had during the war was the great distance of 3,000 miles to the Colonies. They had logistical problems with shipping supplies, moving cargo overland, providing food to their troops and controlling large amounts of captive lands. They also had great difficulty confronting the protective shield of the French naval fleet along the Atlantic coast.

The loyalists who did not leave the colonies after the revolution were not treated very kindly. One story tells of "The Tory Van Vleet". [He was stripped and given a liberal allowance of tar and feathers. A yoke with a bell and rope were fastened to his neck while a man pulled the rope, including Van Vleet, to the Mill Hook Station. A few soldiers, with charging bayonets, who followed to spur him on, struck up the Rogue's march. At times the rope was given a jerk, and the bell would give a melodious tinkle, blending beautifully with the martial music]. A cruel thing to do, but supposedly a true story.

At the end of the American Revolution there was not what we today call “ the United States of America.” The country was a legal established confederation of states with a population of less than four million people. Each state had its own constitution. There was a great deal of unrest among the populace and the government lacked the authority to tax in order to pay off its large war debts and maintain a military.

State governments chartered hundreds of banks and a spirit of enterprise grew throughout the nation. Many of the new banks printed new paper money in such large numbers that the face value of the currency soon lost much of its value. The economies rose and later eventually became unstable.

In 1787, the United State Constitution was written and approved by all of the state’s delegates. The new constitution enabled the central government to maintain greater control over the states. The Bill of Rights was written to establish individual liberty protection from government interference. These individual rights have been fought over in the courts for over two-hundred years.

Each state still had the power to specify who could vote in elections. The following is a document that defined “Who Shall Not Vote” that was an act of the 32d General Assembly of New Jersey, 1807.

[WHERE AS doubts have been raised, and great diversities in practice obtained throughout the state in regard to the admission of aliens, females, and persons of color, or negroes to vote in election, as also in regard to the mode of ascertaining the qualifications of voters in respect to estate. AND WHERE AS, it is highly necessary to the safety, quiet, good order and dignity of the state, to clear up the said doubts by an act of the representatives of the people, declaratory of the true sense and meaning of the constitution, and to ensure its just execution in these particulars, according to the intent of the framers thereof; BE IT ENACTED; by the council and general assembly of this state, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, that from and after the passing of this act, no person shall vote in any state or county election for officers in the government of the United States, or of this state, unless such person be a free, white, male citizen of this state, of the age of twenty-one years, worth fifty pounds proclamation money, clear estate, and have resided in the county where he claims a vote, for at least twelve months immediately preceding the election]

It took one hundred and thirteen years for women to have the right to vote. It took one hundred and fifty eight years for the black people of Alabama to finally gain the right to vote.

There seems to be little in the popular historical review of the American Revolution about the contribution that local militias provided to the ultimate success of the Continental Army. William's two sons, William Jr. and Levi made the ultimate sacrifice in the defense of our new nation. Son's Thomas and Samuel were both at times members of a militia as well as part of Washington's army.

The New Jersey Militia played a major part in the war of independence. The militia resisted the enemy movements in both small and large groups. They were very successful in preventing British from obtaining fresh food and animal fodder from local communities. They made sure that roads were kept passable, guarded prisoners, hunted down thieves and kept a close eye on the large Tory population. Militiamen were also referred to as "minute-men" in that they would be pledged to fight on a minute's notice.

They made quick raids, using whaleboats, in the English controlled city of New York. These attacks became known as "The Whaleboat Wars."

At one time the New Jersey Militia consisted of several thousand men. Initially, one-half of the militia would serve duty every other month. This rotation of duty soon became unpopular and enrollments soon dwindled. All men between the ages of sixteen to fifty were eventually required to join a local militia.

Patriot militias and loyalist Tories periodically ambushed each other and often robbed, burned and murdered one another. Innocent civilians were often killed. Militia also tried to prevent the British from purchasing needed supplies and food from local traders. The British were able to pay with hard coinage while the Americans paid with the new soft paper money that soon deflated in value. The so-called "London trade" was obviously more popular and continued until the end of the war.

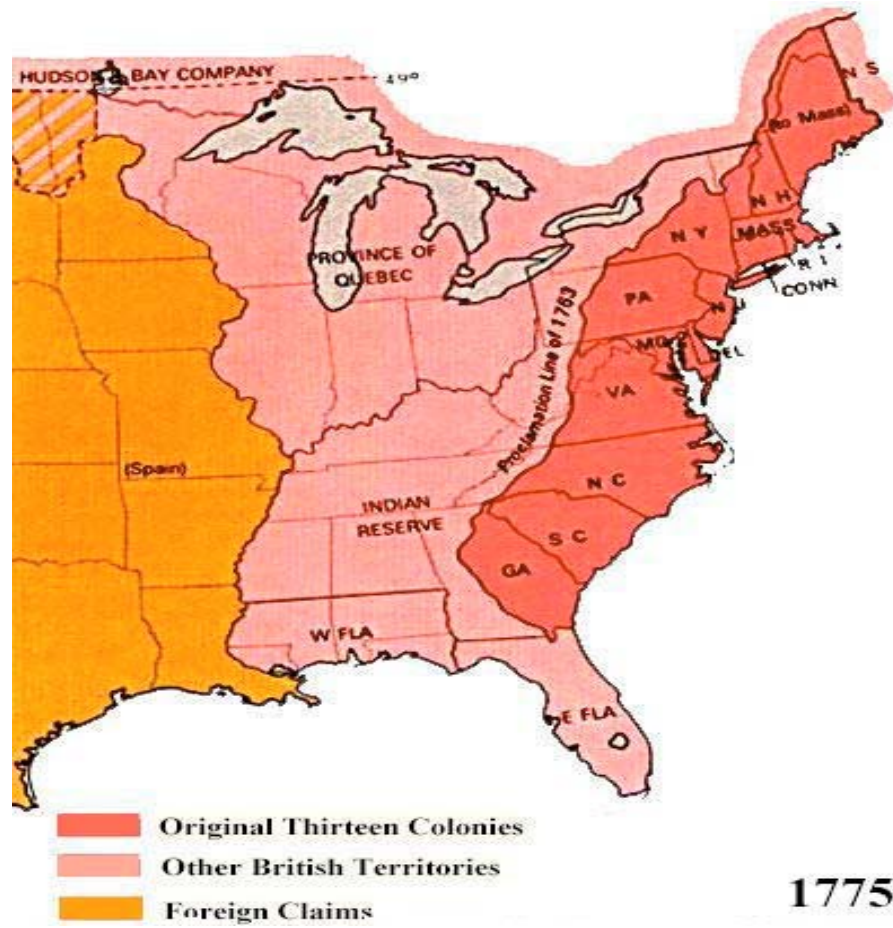
There were small fines given to the Militia members for failure to report for duty. The regulars in the Continental Army had to serve one year terms and later three years and then finally for the full duration of the war. Desertion resulted in severe flogging.

Each man had to furnish himself with a good musket or firelock and bayonet, sword or tomahawk, cartridge-box, twenty-three rounds of cartridges, twelve flints and a knapsack. Each town was able to determine what they could afford to pay for their local militia.

No New Jersey residents felt safe within their communities. There was much local looting, pillaging, destruction and even rape occurring due to the presents of Hessians, who were paid mercenary German soldiers. Even some English troops eventually joined in of the looting and pillage. Eventually local Tory's paid the price for their alliance with the English. Most of the citizens eventually turned against the English.

The militia became the right arm of the Continental Army due to their guerilla war tactics. Washington's army was eventually backed by thousands of militia men.

# U.S. TERRITORIAL MAP



# U.S. TERRITORIAL MAP



Thomas Dunn's lifetime story is interesting from the standpoint of how happenstance can have an affect on a person's life. In Thomas's case it was the journey that his son William made when he traveled away from home at the very young age of eighteen.

The following real life story, extracted from Quinlan's "History of Sullivan County", best describes how one young boy's adventurous travels can affect the lives of his entire family. The story takes place at what was then referred to as Big Eddy, New York. The name Big Eddy is a large bend in the Delaware River and may not have been an incorporated town. It was just a place in the wilderness at the time. The town of Narrowsburgh, present population, approximately 420, is today at the location of Big Eddy.

[The Wickham family of Orange county possessed three-fourths of the town. They owned the Oliver Calkins place, for which they traded lands in Ohio. This they sold to a family of Dunns, consisting of Thomas Dunn, his seven sons, and a nephew. These men were enterprising and industrious, and became large landholders in the town. We have no certain account of the origin of this family: but think they were from New England, as the father, Thomas Dunn, senior, settled in Wyoming, under the Connecticut grant, previous to the Revolutionary war. He seemed to have stopped on his way to Wyoming at Flat Brook, New Jersey, where he married Susannah Sweezy, the daughter of a native of Holland. He was living on the outskirts of the settlement from Connecticut, and had five children in July, 1778, when the celebrated massacre occurred. One of his grandchildren is still living (1870) near Narrowsburgh, who has often heard Susannah Dunn relate the horrors she witnessed on that occasion.

When the savages commenced their bloody work, Thomas Dunn was hoeing corn in one of the fields. His wife heard the distant firing of guns and leaving their children in their cabin (one of them a babe) she went to her husband and told him they must leave the valley at once, or the Indians would be upon them. He was very busy with his corn, the hoeing of which had been somewhat delayed, and was anxious to go on with it, and believing that she was unnecessarily frightened, he laughed at her alarm, and chided her timidity; but while he was doing so, he too heard the firing. At once he dropped his hoe, and returned with Mrs. Dunn to the house, where he packed up all the clothing and necessaries he could carry in a bed-tick, and started with his children and wife for the nearest settlement in New Jersey.

Mrs. Dunn, in addition to her youngest child, carried a small iron kettle; but finding the latter burdensome, threw it into a millpond. Their route was through what became known as the "Shades of Death", from the fact that so many perished there from starvation and exposure, as well as the tomahawk of the savages.

Here they were joined by some of their neighbors, who were homeless fugitives and wanderers in the wilderness like themselves. On the first night they were in the woods, they could see the campfires of the Indians; but did not dare kindle a fire themselves.

While they were resting for a short time in the dark, damp woods, one of the women of the party, from fatigue and fright, was taken sick, and gave premature birth to a child, which never opened its eyes to the misery of the time.

The poor mother soon became oblivious to woe and suffering, and died before morning. So great was their danger, so near the foe, that it was not considered safe to remain there long enough to bury the dead, and the husband of the poor woman was obliged to leave the bodies of his wife and child where they would become food for the wild beasts.

In due time the party reached Flat Brook, New Jersey, without further loss.

Thomas Dunn, after providing for the safety of his family, enlisted in the army under Washington, and served his country faithfully.

After the declaration, of peace, he and his wife went back to Wyoming, but not to live there. She, like a thrifty housewife, attempted to find her kettle, but the mill had been burned and the dam broken down and she failed to recover it.

For a few years, the family continued to reside in New Jersey. In 1800, when William, one of the sons, was eighteen years of age, he wandered up the Delaware as far as big Eddy, where he engaged to work for Benjamin Thomas for six dollars per month. Here he labored one winter. In the spring, Thomas who had not paid for the land he occupied, but had made some improvements, asked young Dunn to buy out whatever right he had. Over a year previously, Dunn had married Mary Pintler, of Flat Brook. At the time of his marriage, he was a mere schoolboy. Indeed, he continued to attend school for a year after it took place.

He at once made up his mind that the proposition of Thomas was a good one, as there was abundance of choice pine and other timber on the tract and much of the land was desirable.

In the spring he returned to Flat Brook, and consulted his father and other relatives about accepting the offer made by Thomas. The result was that, before another winter, the entire family was located at big Eddy, as well as one of William's cousins and a young man named Peter Young, who came with them.

The following is a list of the family at that time. Thomas Dunn, senior, and his wife Susannah. William, John, James and Thomas Jr., and their wives. Abel, Asa, Harrion, and Caleb, who were unmarried, and one of whom was a cousin.

The entire party came on horseback by the way of Carpenter's Point and followed the Cochection road to Mapes' mills, then an Indian trail to Deep Hollow brook, then through the Laurel-swamp and from that to the Delaware at the point where the Narrowsburgh depot stands.

One of the boys was known as doctor Dunn, because he was the seventh son, but it does not appear that he practiced and was a successful physician on account of the order of his birth.

They settled first on what is known as the lower place, just below the village. Next they bought the middle place, which covers the site of Narrowsburgh. We are told that they purchased these farms of Mr. Wickham, but will not vouch for the truthfulness of the information. They soon after got the upper or Oliver Calkin's farm from Wickham. Of this there is no doubt.

They thus had three large tracts of land. Excluding the village property, their farms embraced the farms now (1870) owned by C.C. Murray, Mr. Senger, Mr. Stanton and Mr. Yerks.

When they came, there was but little land cleared. The country was literally wild. They at once commenced making improvements and there being nine of them, nearly all of whom were rugged men, they made rapid progress. There being several families of them, they could not all live in the largest log-house which was ever erected, consequently they occupied several.

The first was on the site of C.C. Murray's residence. It had a cellar-kitchen, which is still preserved, in the present new and more commodious edifice. Another of their log-tenements was near the house of C.K. Gordon; the third was where A.S. Hendrix lived before the great oil-accident on the Erie railway, in August 1867, the fourth where E.A. Green resides, and the fifth at the sawmill. These were all of logs, except the house at the mill. They built the latter, and it was standing until the summer of 1869, when it having become the property of the Erie Railway Company, it was demolished. They owned a sixth house on the upper place, the Raftman's Hotel, where "Uncle Billy" officiated in the three-fold capacity of lumberman, farmer and tavern-keeper. He was very popular with those who frequented the river, and many an old man boasts of having rafted and staid all night with "Uncle Billy Dunn." The family also had real estate in Pennsylvania and at Beaver Brook. In 1858, the Raftman's Hotel was torn down by Mr. Hendrix, who owned it at the time.

William Dunn was a slaveholder. In 1807, he bought a colored boy of Jacob Chambers, of Cuddelbackville, who was probably of the same family as Cobe Chambers, who was implicated with Tom Quick and Ben Haines in the murder of Canope. This boy served him faithfully as his slave until he was freed in 1827 by the operation of the law of 1817, and continued to work for him afterwards.

“Like master, like slave” was a true saying when applied to the relation which once existed between the whites and blacks. A kind and humane master was pretty sure to have good slaves, if he raised them himself. This negro assumed the family name of his last owner, and is known to this day (1873) as James B. Dunn. He lives a short distance below Big Eddy, and is a civil, well bred old fellow, who always refers to his master in terms of respectful affection, although the latter has been dead about forty years. It is singular that the name of Dunn has nearly disappeared in the neighborhood where the family was once so numerous and had such large possessions, and that this venerable negro alone keeps the name alive, the descendants of Thomas Dunn, at Big Eddy, being females. When he, James B. Dunn, came to Narrowsburgh, the greater part of the land on which the village is situated was heavily timbered, and covered by a dense undergrowth of laurel.

Oliver Calkins was the first Justice of the Peace at Big Eddy, William Dunn the second and Jonathan Dexter the third. Some of the descendants of Judge Dexter are still living on the banks of the Delaware. The day and year when the elder Thomas Dunn died is unknown. He was buried at Big Eddy, and a common sandstone placed at the head of his grave, with this inscription and nothing more: “To the memory of Thomas Dunn” After his decease, William bought the right of his brothers in the upper and lower farms, and James became the sole owner of the middle farm. Several of the brothers then moved to Ohio.

On the 2<sup>nd</sup> of December, 1830, William Dunn was killed under very distressing circumstances. He was felling trees with several hands. As one he was cutting himself began to topple over, he through a strange fatality, got under it, and was crushed to the earth.

James B. Dunn, his faithful colored friend, was present, as well as John Johnston and some others. As soon as practicable, they removed him from beneath the tree-trunk, when he said, “Boys, I want to go to sleep,” and died. In the morning, full of manly life and animated by laudable enterprise, he went from his home to attend to the business of the day. At night he lay a mangled corpse, cold and still, surrounded by an inconsolable family and sorrowing neighbors. The “Republican Watchman” of the succeeding week contains an account of the accident, to which the editor appended the remark: “ He was in the prime of life, and was esteemed a good citizen.” Old people of that locality still speak of him kindly, and declare that he was a good neighbor, and never turned the poor and afflicted away empty. He was married twice. By his first wife, Mary Pintler, he had seven children, four of whom died young. One son and two daughters are still living. Their mother died on the 12<sup>th</sup> of June 1813. About seven years afterwards (1820) he married Elizabeth Sweezy, the daughter of O. Sweezy, a Revolutionary patriot of Sussex county, New Jersey. By her he had two sons and an equal number of daughters.]

William's son, Samuel had a long and active life. In 1778 Samuel married Hannah Gardner. The time of their marriage would have been during the very early years of the revolutionary war. Samuel would have been about twenty-five years old at the time of their marriage. They had one child named Samuel. Hannah unfortunately died soon after the birth of her son. There are today direct descendants of Samuel Dunn Jr.

Samuel returned to Newton, New Jersey after experiencing the terrible battle and the aftermath of the Wyoming massacre. It was at the town of Newton that he met and married Phebe Coykendall, the daughter of Daniel and Elisabeth Coykendall. The Coykendalls were a well-known Dutch family from Port Jervis, New York.

There were seven children born to Samuel and Phebe. They were Sarah, Peter, Daniel, Thomas, Jesse, Jefferson and Betsy. There are at least six other children that have been identified by another source that were supposedly born to Samuel and Phebe. I suspect that the six other children were probably adopted into the family.

It was about the time of the birth of their fifth child Jesse, during the early 1800's, that Samuel decided to move his family to the township of Phelps, New York. Phelps Township is just south of Lake Ontario. Samuel was initially able to purchase a small tract of land near the township. Later on, he was able to add large acres of land that were adjacent to his initial tract of land. He eventually had an accumulated tract of land that was well over one hundred acres.

Phebe died in 1811, which was soon after her last daughter, Betsy, was born. She was only forty-five years of age at the time of her death.

Samuel, now fifty-five years of age, soon after married once again to a Barbara Hiles, who was 32 years old. Three children were born to Samuel and Barbara. They were Nancy Ann, Susannah and Diana. Samuel certainly did his share of enlarging the Dunn family tree.

Samuel soon decided to move his extended family to Arcadia, New York. Arcadia is only about twelve miles north of Phelps Township. He sold the farm to his sons James and Jesse. Samuel lived at Arcadia for about fifteen years and later moved to Wayne County Missouri where he died on October 6, 1836. Samuel was about eighty-three years of age at the time of his death.

Samuel's life demonstrates the enormous challenges that our ancestors faced during the very early days of our country. And it is amazing that he lived such a long life. He was able to survive the battle of 1777 at Fort Ticonderoga and later the smallpox epidemic that killed hundreds of men. He then was able to survive the battle and massacre of Wyoming Valley. Married three times and raised eleven known children.

William and Esther's son Simeon has been quite elusive as far as his whereabouts back into the late 1700's. There is not much chronological information as to where he traveled his activities and his marriage. It appears, from quite rudimentary evidence, that Simeon married Anne Gustin in about the year 1754 in the township of New Brunswick, New Jersey. Ann, or maybe Anne, was born about the year 1754. I have not found any record of Ann's parentage.

The information obtained about their relationship is not very thorough, however it is quite reasonable, judging to the closeness of the two towns of Newton and New Brunswick, New Jersey. The distance between the two towns is approximately 40 miles, which is not too long of a distance for a courtship to arise within the early days of the horse and buggy.

There are three recorded children that were born to Simeon and Anne. They were Levi, Simeon Jr. and William. Simeon Jr. had a son, Simeon Adams Dunn, who joined the Mormon Church and had five wives. The Simeon and Ann family actually grew into very large numbers over the many years to the present times.

There is but little information that I have gathered about any activities of Simeon Dunn. I would only guess that he must have become a farmer within the New Brunswick area. There are no indications that he followed in the footsteps of his brothers Samuel and Thomas. If anything, it might be possible that Simeon could have been spared from the many burdens that occurred to his brothers. A family record states that Simeon died on the 21<sup>st</sup> of May, 1812.

I should acknowledge that most of the discussion of my Dunn family surrounds the activities of the male members. This is certainly not purposeful on my part. It should be remembered that in general, all women in the early days of the colonies did not take any role in local civic activities. There were no woman's liberation movements in those days. Women did not vote, own property, meet at local civic meetings, sign legal agreements, conduct financial transactions or even make family decisions that were generally expected from the head of the family, the husband. In other words, their job was to take care of the problems of the home. Most women that lived in the early days of our country could neither read nor write. Many could only sign their names with an X.

So is it any wonder that any recorded historical activities such as engagements of wars, traveling to new locations, tragic accidents, fighting savage Indians and other burdens that occurred to the early settlers were generally the responsibilities of men.

The little information that I obtained about Simeon was from two sources. One source was a wonderful compiled research called "Search for Simeon" which was developed by Susan V. Smith. The other source was through the LDS Family Archives. The LDS archives are a great source of information for family researchers. However, the information in their archives are from entries of individual persons that can contain errors.

William and Esther's daughter Hannah married a John Greening. Their daughter Sarah married James Adams on January 3, 1787 at Frankford, Sussex County, New Jersey. I don't have any record of a marriage for Ann Dunn. And, as mentioned before, daughter Esther married Francis Price. Esther died in 1774 at the early age of 30 years. Her husband, Francis, was a captain in the Revolutionary war. He was a justice of the peace after the war and later appointed County Judge in 1789 and again in 1794. Francis's will to his second wife, Anna, provided for the services of their colored boy, Ambrose Shureman, until his 21<sup>st</sup> birthday, when he was to be set free.

The one son of William and Esther that I know least about is my 4<sup>th</sup> great grandfather, Joseph. Joseph would have been too young to have been enlisted in a militia during the battle of Wyoming. This is most likely good news, since I would not be me if Joseph had been a casualty in the battle of Wyoming. Joseph became a local Constable within his community.

Joseph was living at Flatbrookville, New Jersey, when he was preparing to move to a farm during his retirement. He had purchased a farm near Montrose, Susquhanna County, Pennsylvania. Unfortunately, Joseph's retirement was short lived, he died on the day of the move. This information was recalled by a neighbor, Mr. John A. Biles of Flatbrookvill. Joseph and his wife, Rachel, had nine children. They were William, Mahala, Pamela, Betsy Elizabeth, Joseph, Rachael, John, Prudence and Elizabeth. I am a descendant from William.

Flatbrookville is within the township of Walpack that lies along the eastern borders of the Delaware River. Walpack center is a small village in the northern portion of the township that served as the primary meeting place and post office for the township. The township today is in the most rural part of New Jersey. Most of the undeveloped land is part of a wildlife recreation preserve called the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area. The area is a wild and scenic countryside used by game hunters and fishermen. The little town of Walpack Center, which was once a thriving community now has only a small post office, a general store, a church and about three homes. An 1840 township statistic showed a population of 728 people. A recent 2000 census showed a population of 41 people.

The Walpack township provides a good feeling to the person who is searching for remnants of the past since no urban development has encroached upon the area. When traveling past Walpack Center, along Route 615, a road sign directs you towards Flatbrookville. However, you will see but only about two homes and a country store that are left from the past. A little history of Flatbrookville tells of a mill, probably a grain mill, that was built during the early days of the settlement. The first store was built about 1818. An old home was remodeled into a hotel a few years later. The village received an impulse in 1854 when a new store and several dwellings were built. At one time there were three stores that were operating. The town reached its peak around the latter part of the 1800's.

All of us are a product of history. We are who we are based on our ancestry, our heritage and our environment. Our ancestry is based on our parents, our parent's parents and all of those others going back into time. Our heritage is based on the history that was laid out prior to our being where we are today. So it is important for all of us to know how our county developed to what we see before us today.

One of the greatest and surprising historical achievements within our country was the Louisiana Purchase. This land purchase doubled the total landscape of the early American colony within very strange situations.

The French government lost most of all of the lands that they previously controlled after their loss of the French Indian War in 1763. This land extended west out to New Orleans and up the Missouri River to today's border of Canada. The French also ceded to Spain the lands between the Mississippi River out west to the Rocky Mountains. This land was referred to as the Louisiana lands. Ownership of Louisiana lands again changed in 1801, when Spain signed a secret treaty with France ceding the land back to France.

Thomas Jefferson, the third president of the United States was able to purchase the entire Louisiana lands from France for the total sum of fifteen million dollars. This purchase would later become known as "The Louisiana Purchase," The new United States of America instantly doubled in geographic size.

Jefferson's viewpoint of a new America was small townships that included small family farms. In some respects he was correct, but only for a short period of time. Many of the small country towns would later become large crowded cities. Jefferson's viewpoint of the future soon changed.

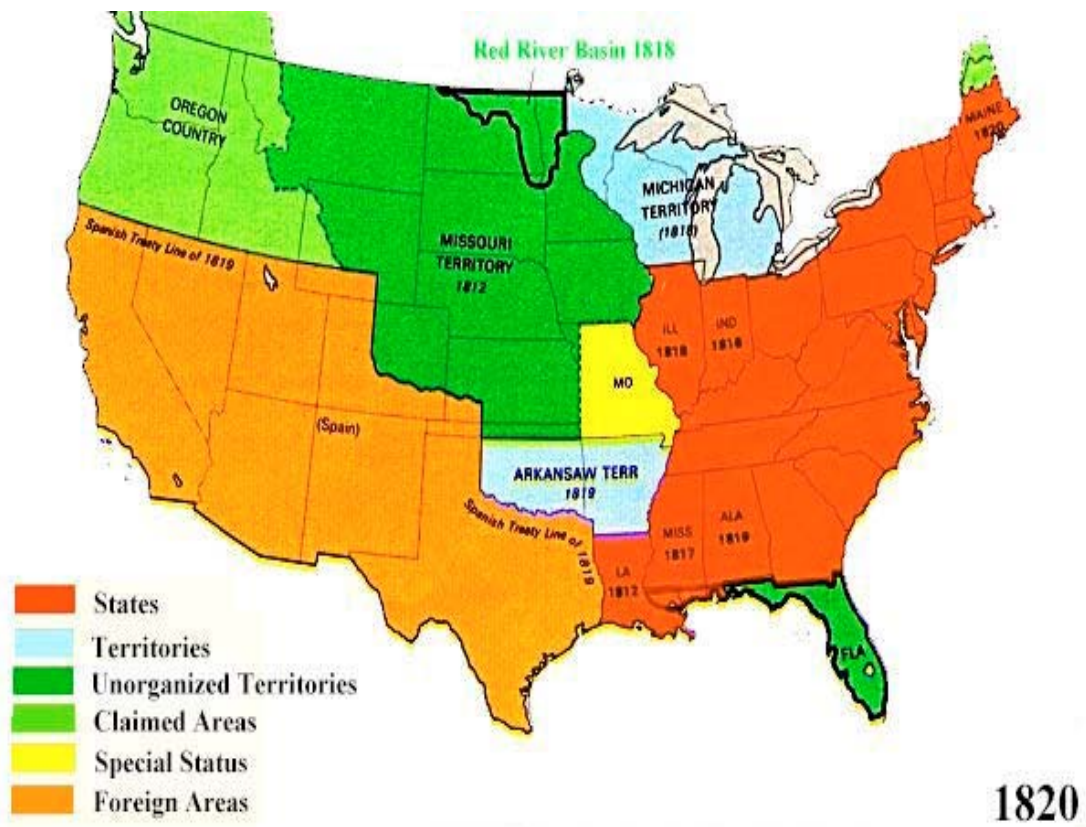
Our new country, in 1812, again declared war on Great Britain. The war was started due to the British interference with American trade at sea. There were also problem skirmishes along the undefined Northern borders with Canada. British war ships would search and sometimes destroy the ships that sailed from America to the European trading partners.

The war was declared due to many disputes with great Britain. The British had actually attacked the American ship, USS Chesapeake two years prior to the start of the war. There were also disputes with Great Britain over territories within the Northwest borders of Canada. Britain also created blockades between America and its trading partner, France. Most of the battles occurred within the northern states and Canada. The British did make an attack on the nation's capital and managed to burn most of the city. The British were forced to accept a peace treaty after military and several naval battles within the Great Lakes. Established borders were made at the time of the treaty. Many English felt that Britain's continual wars with France had a great influence for an end to hostilities with the Americans. Also, England's wars had caused considerable problems with their ability to borrow money.

# U.S. TERRITORIAL MAP



## U.S. Territorial MAP



A New Jersey law passed on February 16, 1812 that required every man from eight-teen to forty-five shall be listed by the Captain, or commanding officer, in their home district. Persons who failed to do so were to be taxed six dollars. In Sussex County only thirty-two men volunteered and five hundred and ninety-eight men were required to be drafted. Two jail prisoners were offered to the recruiting officer. Some men were later enticed to volunteer with a bounty of \$124, 160 acres of land and wages of eight dollars per month. The New Jersey militia eventually had a total strength of 37,352 men. Sussex County had 164 cavalry, 300 riflemen and 3926 infantrymen. These numbers included the men who were initially enrolled with the militia and new volunteers, or draftees.

In March 1813, the Governor of New Jersey issued a general order for every enrolled militiaman to provide himself with a good musket or forelock, a sufficient bayonet and belt, two spare flints and a knapsack, a pouch to contain not less than twenty-four cartridges suited to the bore of his musket, each cartridge to contain a sufficient quantity of powder and ball. Or if a rifleman, with a good rifle, knapsack, shot-pouch and powder horn, twenty balls suited to the bore of his rifle, and one-quarter of a pound of powder.

William's company was on active duty during the war from September 3, 1814 to December 6, 1814. He was twenty-eight years old at the time. Major Benjamin Rosenkrans was in charge of the Over-the Mountain Battalion. The Battalion was part of a Brigade under the command of General William Colfax. The Brigade was sent to Sandy-Hook, New Jersey in order to protect the English from entering and controlling the New York harbor ports.

There were British warships that were offshore from Sandy Hood and an unsuccessful attempt was made to land a raiding party along the shores of the peninsula.

The citizens of Newton, Sussex County endeavored to send blankets and other supplies, since the militia was not prepared for the cold weather. The militiamen at the beginning of the war complained of inadequate arms and supplies. Thomas Ryersom, a draftee from Sussex County, wrote to a friend ridiculing his service at "camp folly" in the Highlands. General Colfax reported that some men from the Sussex County had deserted.

Peace negotiations in 1814 between the two nations finally ended the short war of 1812.

The following document, showing William Dunn's infantry company, was obtained from the Records of Officers and Men of New Jersey in the Wars 1791 to 1815.

Captain William Dunn's Company of Infantry.  
Second Regiment New Jersey Detailed Militia.

Sussex County.

1	William Dunn.....	Captain.....	Sept. 3, '14	Until relieved...	Dec. 6, '14	
1	John Hull.....	Ensign.....	"	"	"	
1	John Chamberlain .....	Sergeant.....	"	"	"	
2	Solomon Kettle.....	"	"	"	"	
3	Dudley Stearns.....	"	"	"	"	
4	Frederick Main.....	"	"	"	"	
1	William Lockerby.....	Corporal....	"	"	"	
2	Jacob Smith.....	"	"	"	"	
3	Christian Probasco.....	"	"	"	"	
4	Philip Vanhorn.....	"	"	"	"	
1	Bennet, Henry.....	Private.....	"	"	"	
2	Brink, William.....	"	"	"	"	
3	Clark, Isaac.....	"	"	"	"	
4	Cole, Thomas.....	"	"	"	"	
5	Congle, Peter.....	"	"	"	"	
6	Decker, Abraham.....	"	"	"	"	
7	Decker, Peter.....	"	"	"	"	
8	Depue, Elijah.....	"	"	"	"	
9	Emery, George.....	"	"	"	"	
10	Emmons, John.....	"	"	"	"	
11	Everett, Marshal.....	"	"	"	"	
12	Fisher, John.....	"	Nov. 26, '14	"	"	Sent Abram Van Auken as substitute from Sept. 3, '14, to Nov. 26, '14.
13	Freeman, Lewis.....	"	Sept. 3, '14	"	"	
14	Grover, Jacob.....	"	"	"	"	
15	Gunn, John.....	"	"	"	"	
16	Hamman, John.....	"	"	"	"	
17	Hush, Anthony.....	"	"	"	"	

18	Jameson, Isaac.....	Private.....	Sept. 3, '14	Until relieved...	Dec. 6, '14	
19	Lanning, Daniel.....	"	"	"	"	
20	Mason, Peter.....	"	"	"	"	
21	Mason, Benoni.....	"	"	"	"	
22	McClernack, Francis.....	"	"	"	"	
23	Mead, Lewis.....	"	"	"	"	
24	Murray, Solomon.....	"	"	"	"	Sent Jacob Probasco as substitute.
25	Myers, Peter.....	"	"	"	Dec. 6, '14	Substitute for Peter Myers.
26	Preston, Michael.....	"	"	"	"	
27	Probasco, Jacob.....	"	Sept. 3, '14	"	"	
28	Rosenkranz, Elijah.....	"	"	"	"	
29	Savercool, Moses.....	"	"	"	"	
30	Shay, David.....	"	"	"	"	
31	Shoemaker, Moses.....	"	"	"	"	
32	Sidem, Abraham.....	"	"	"	"	
33	Smith, Elias.....	"	"	"	"	
34	Snable, George.....	"	"	"	"	
35	Snover, Isaac F.....	"	"	"	"	Died Nov. 13, '14.
36	Staley, Isaac.....	"	"	"	Dec. 6, '14	
37	Staley, Jacob H.....	"	"	"	"	
38	Strond, Jesse.....	"	"	"	"	
39	Vannatta, James.....	"	"	"	"	Discharged Nov. 26, '14; substitute for John Fisher.
40	Van Auken, Abram.....	"	"	"	Dec. 6, '14	
41	Vancamp, James.....	"	"	"	"	
42	Vancamp, John.....	"	"	"	"	
43	Van Gorden, Simon.....	"	"	"	"	
44	Vannoy, Nicholas.....	"	"	"	"	
45	Vava, William.....	"	"	"	"	
46	Westbrook, Joseph.....	"	"	"	"	
47	Westbrook, Peter.....	"	"	"	"	
48	Westbrook, Peter, Jr.....	"	"	"	"	
49	Westbrook, Solomon.....	"	"	"	"	

Life, during the early years of our country, generally meant staying put in you own back yard. Traveling about was not an easy thing to do. Of course there were periods of times when a family would pack up and move quite a long distance to another location. This was often a necessity or possibly a search for larger tracks of land. Then there were many people who were quite content to just stay put in one place during their entire lives. Such was the case for both Joseph and his son William Dunn. Of course Joseph's one big move was short lived when he was ready to move to the town of Montrose.

During the 1700's it was common practice to name the first born male child after the grandfather's given name. It appears that the practice of naming children with biblical names disappeared with my fourth generation of Dunns. It should be noted that Joseph and Rachel were married by Squire Francis Price, and not within a Christian church.

William Dunn and his wife, Mary "Polly", had ten children. They were Joseph Alpheus, Nelson, Barton "Bartley", Anson, Amanda Jane, Hiram, John, Mary and Cyrus.

An 1830 census from the Walpack Township, Sussex County identifies a William Dunn as the head of household with nine people living in the residence. Only the sex and ages of the occupants are identified. All of the adults are accounted for. Only Amanda and Cyrus would be missing from the list of children's ages. Another census was taken in 1840 which accounts for all of the children including Joseph Alpheus as living next door with a new wife and two children.

William Dunn died on March 11, 1842 in Flatbrookville. He was then fifty-six years old.

We all complain about "death and taxes." However, "death taxes" were like rubbing salt into a person's wounds. Estate taxes were often inflicted on the most humble people during the early days of our country. I suppose the bottom line was "the local government needed the money."

William's estate was taxed as follows:

Purse and apparel.	\$ 7.75	Household goods.	\$81.80
Potatoes and grain	3.45	Two horses	100
Three cows	63.00	Five swine	5.70
Ry in the sheafe	14.06	Carpenter tools	3.87
Plows,wagon, etc.	68.70	Hay	5.00
Grain in ground	4.00	Rent due	12.00
Bible, law books	1.50	Old books	.50
Money due	12.48	Book account	60.65
Notes due	1866.34	One desperate	24.25

Total taxable amount: \$2339.21

The widow Mary signed the listing with an X

The years during the early 1800's were really a prelude to a future dynamic economy that would eventually become a dominant presence throughout the world. However, there were many serious bumpy roads along the path to worldwide economic leadership. Also, the territories of the new government of the United States would expand out into the far reaches of the west through the good fortune of events that some might call providence.

William Dunn's wife, Mary (Polly) was only about forty-six years of age when William died in 1842. She had to support herself for twenty-seven years until her death in 1869. She also had to support her youngest son, Cyrus, who was only about three years old when William died. Mary provided for herself as a seamstress. A good seamstress was always of great value in a small local community. Members of her family were also there to care for her.

There was an 1850 US census taken at Flatbrookville that identifies Mary Dunn, fifty-six years old, living in a house with her daughter Amanda and her son Cyrus. Living next door was her daughter, Mary, and her husband Jonas K. Smith, along with their new son, Jacob. Jonas K. Smith was listed as a merchant. Another related Smith family was listed as living on the other side of the elder Mary's home. This was a very typical way for families to live very close to one another in those days.

There is an interesting story relating to William Dunn's father-in law, Yost Yetter. Yost owned a farm near Flatbrookville. William's wife, Mary inherited the farm after Yost died. Her daughter, Mary, eventually inherited the property after her mother passed away. The legal owner of property in those days was always the male member of the family. In this case it was Mary's husband, Jonas K. Smith. Evidently Jonas had an urge to gamble. One night his luck ran out. He lost Yost's entire farm on a losing hand at the poker table. It would be interesting to know how he explained the loss to his wife when he found his way back home. Divorce was not a choice of mutual departure in those days.

Local history has it that the present day owner of the property has the same last name as the man with the winning hand at the poker table. I will withhold the name of the poker game winner in order to protect the privacy of the present owners.

There was an 1840 census in Sussex County that showed Joseph Alpheus Dunn and his wife with two infant children. Joseph married a Martha Hanna. The two infant children in their household would have been Mary and Benjamin Hanna. Benjamin was my great grandfather.

It was sometime between 1840 and 1850 that Joseph Alpheus and his family moved to the Hanover Township in the Wyoming Valley.

Most towns during the early 1800's were independent from one another. Each had its own resources for food, shelter and commerce. Traveling from one town to another was usually an adventure. Many people probably stayed within their own community for their entire lives.

The early travel route that Joseph Alpheus and his family took during the middle 1800's from Flatbrookville, New Jersey to Hanover Township, Pennsylvania was through waterways and over very rough dirt roads. They probably first passed over the Delaware River on Decker's Ferry, which was most likely a rope drawn wooden raft. They then traveled over an early dirt road called the "River Road" that brought them to the town of Stroudsburg. They would then have to endure traveling westward through the Pocono mountain range and eventually reach a road that would take them north to Wilkes-Barre. Their travels would have required enduring steep gorges, narrow ledges and terrible rocky road conditions.

Their direction of travel would probably be much the same as the present day hwy 80 west to hwy 476 and then north to Wilkes-Barre.

The route that they took may have been similar to the travels that the people took when they escaped from Wilkes-Barre to New Jersey during the Wyoming massacre.

The road that they traveled was a turnpike (toll) road, which was developed during the early 1800s. The means of traveling from town to town became more practical during the middle 1800s. Four horse drawn coaches provided a means of traveling a reasonable distance with a very minimum amount of comfort during those days. The blare of a horn was usually the announcement of the coming of a coach to every town. This was the opportunity for town folk to hear of the latest news. Newspapers from Philadelphia were probably available for informing the locals of national news. The hero of the day was the coachman who was ready and willing to excite the local listeners about the latest happenings from far away towns.

The coachman, or a man on horseback, were the means for delivering the mail from Philadelphia. The cost of postage ranged from eight to twenty-five cents. The difference in the cost of mail was based on the distance traveled. Twenty-five cents was a lot of money in those days. The local postmaster was usually the postman who delivered the mail to the people. Postmasters were also often merchants within their community.

The early major industry of Wilkes-Barre settlements was basically family farming. However, the early discovery of large deposits of coal soon changed the character of the Wyoming Valley. Large mining operations were developed and the importation of low cost labor soon changed the character of the town.

## **A new era of transportation**

Joseph Alpheus Dunn is listed in an 1860 U.S. Census in Hanover Township, Pennsylvania. He is classified as a farmer. His wife Martha and their children Mary, Benjamin (Benjamin Hanna), Anson and John are listed. An 1870 census identifies Joseph with six children listed along with Benjamin and John, living in adjacent homes with their children. My grandfather, Benjamin Joseph, the son of Benjamin Hanna, just missed the 1870 census by being born in 1872. The benefits of closeness offered a greater amount of family activity and personal safety.

William Dunn's son Bartley worked for the railroad in Waverly, Carbon County, Pennsylvania. He was later a boatman for twenty-seven years on the Delaware, Hudson and Erie Canals. He evidently was fairly successful during his lifetime. He acquired farm property in Standing Stone where he lived for nineteen years. He later moved to Franklin Township in Bradford County, Pennsylvania for twenty years. He was a county commissioner for six years as a democrat and belonged to the Patrons of Industry. Information about Bartley can be found in the "History of Bradford County", by H.C. Bradley (1891).

Canals were convenient for transporting people, raw materials and manufactured goods between nature's waterways. The early canals were constructed prior to the advent of the railroads. The largest and longest early canal was the "Erie Canal."

There is an interesting story as to how the Erie Canal became a reality. A man named Jesse Hawley, who was serving time in prison during the early 1800's, conceived of a canal that would start at the Hudson River in New York and continue west across the state to Lake Erie. He authored fourteen different essays about the values of the canal. He demonstrated that the canal would provide easy access from the ports of New York City to the Great Lakes. President Thomas Jefferson felt that the idea of a canal over such a great distance was tantamount to madness. However, the New York City mayor, DeWitt Clinton, bought on to the idea and created a financial promotion for the canal. DeWitt Clinton's support became more successful when he later became governor of New York State. He encouraged the state legislature to appropriate initial funds for the canal's construction.

The canal was entirely built by the muscle and sweat of determined manpower. There were no mechanized earth removers in those days. Dynamite was the only means of removing large rock formations. The Erie Canal stretched over 363 miles from the Hudson River at Albany to Lake Erie at Buffalo New York. The total cost of the canal system came to seven million dollars, which was an enormous amount of money in those days. The Erie Canal has been modified many times over the years and is still in use today. The latest modification occurred in 1996 when a Revitalization Program commenced to accommodate safety issues, greater accessibility and enhance recreational opportunities along the canal corridor.

There were many new creative innovations during the early 1800's. However, none had a greater economic impact than the steam locomotive. A railway steam engine was developed in England about the year 1830. The early locomotives in America were simple looking engines with little pulling power capabilities. They could carry several passengers along horizontal paths. The most famous of the early locomotives was "Old Ironsides." A man named Matthias Baldwin developed the first usable American locomotive in 1831. This locomotive could carry a train at a speed of thirty miles an hour.

The rise of the "railroad era" soon followed when the much larger and more powerful locomotives were developed. The M.W. Baldwin Company became the first to build the larger locomotives that were eventually used throughout the 19<sup>th</sup> century. These larger steam driven locomotives were used up through most of the 1930's, when they were slowly put into retirement when the more powerful diesel engines became popular.

I remember as a boy how the steam engine locomotives would belch out large smoke rings straight up into the air through their smokestacks. My friends and I would place copper pennies on the rail tracks and watch, as the train engines would flatten them out.

The railroads eventually became the common method of transportation. Enormous fortunes were made during the early days of the building of the vast number of railroads. The new railroads quickly overshadowed the early canals in regards to quick and economical transportation. The railroads also allowed, for the first time, an economic availability for personal travel. People were finally able to travel for the enjoyment of vacationing great distances away from their communities.

River navigation was vastly improved during the early 1800's when Fulton launched the first steamboat on the Hudson River in 1809. The ability to propel a boat upstream in a river provided vast improvements in navigation safety. The stern-wheel steamboats eventually became a popular method of transporting products as well as an entertaining pastime for vacationers.

Many other inventions of the 1800's, of less notoriety, created a great change in human interaction in people's daily lives. Improvements in methods of printing newspapers and magazines provided a greater abundance of news media and various periodicals to the public. Paper manufacturing by machine replaced the slow process of hand made paper.

The one invention that had an important impact of human civilization was the modern toilet. It's replacement of the outhouse created the potential for higher densities of human civilization. Possibly the modern flush toilet can be blamed for the problems of our modern cities of today. The multitude of inventions that took place during the early 1800's became but a prelude to the more advanced scientific advances that evolved during the latter part of that century.

## Coal miners

The present day Wyoming Valley is an amalgamation of all of the original townships that were established by the Susquehanna Company. Most of the homes and downtown business buildings are of early twenty-century architecture with a few new retail outlets and restaurants sprinkled throughout each township. This is an area of historic major coal mining activity and a multitude of economic ups and downs.

The coal mining industry became the major financial support for the townships in the Wyoming Valley. There was some coal mining in the valley as early as 1788. The early mining was generally along exposed surfaces, which were within the banks of the Susquehanna River. Larger coal mining operations were later within the deep mines. The major use of coal in those days was for heating the homes and drawing iron for making nails. The eventual major surge in the coal mining business was due to the large demand for coal burning railway steam engines.

The coal mining industry in the Wyoming Valley had a long and controversial history. The use of child labor was an ordinary fact of life during most of the 1800's. Many children, as young as eight years of age, were introduced to the mining culture. The children were known as "breaker boys" due to the type of work that they did. They would sit at a bench and pick out the slate and rock from the mined coal that would pass beneath them. The breaker boys would work in a coal dust environment for ten hours a day.

Most of these boys would eventually enter the work force in the mines at about the age of sixteen. They would then work for twenty to thirty years. Many would eventually contact miners consumption, which was due to the constant breathing of the coal dust. Most would then return to work along with the young breaker boys in the factory. The slogan of the mining industry was "twice as a boy and once as a man, that's a the poor miner's lot." In other words, they were once a boy, then a man, and later a boy again in their old age. Child labor laws were enacted during the late 1800's that prohibited children from working under the age of fourteen. However, the new law was overlooked for several years.

Working conditions changed radically when the United Mine Workers Union created a strike in 1902. The long strike formed the strength of all labor movements in the United States. An eight-hour workday was established along with living wages for the miners. The strike also established a model for the total labor movement in the United States.

A secret Irish organization, known as the "the Molly Maguires", created many difficulties for the early mine owners. A miner, who felt that his boss wronged him, could bring his case before a secret tribunal. A valid complaint might bring a decision to permit a brutal beating, or worse, sometimes a murder of the boss. Another member of the organization always committed the punishment so the complaining member would never be suspected. A toast with whiskey usually followed the serious decision of deliberation.

The rapid rise of the population within the new United States during the early 1800's was mainly due to large birth rates and an increase in the amount of immigrants entering the young country. The population in the country grew from more than five million in 1800 to greater than 23 million by the middle 1800's. Much of the lands along the eastern states were privately owned by the end of the eighteenth century. There was, however, a paradox that was happening. Many social problems were occurring in some parts of the eastern states that were related to ethnic intolerance. A common attitude of many new arrivals was to reside in their own ethnic neighborhoods and continue to use the language of their native lands.

The newly acquired land of Louisiana in the west became an attraction for many that had a desire for private ownership of open farmland. Many people felt that land ownership represented self-sufficiency, freedom and an opportunity for independence. An estimated four million people moved into the western territories between 1820 and 1850. Some of the migration went beyond the new western territory of Louisiana.

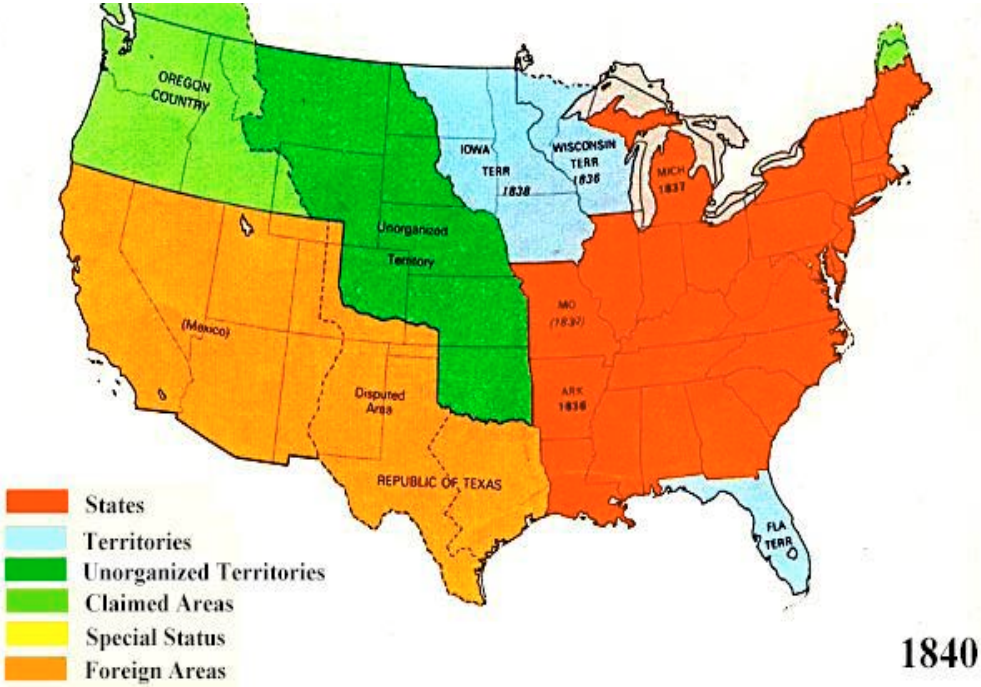
Much of the positive attitude of those early days of our nation was based on the concept of "Manifest Destiny." This concept was an idealism of progress and the betterment of the people that had been preordained by the almighty. This concept was somewhat like a reward. The attitude of "Manifest Destiny" was almost a self-fulfilling prophecy. It provided the courage and determination of the early pioneers to travel out into the unknown lands of the west.

An early newspaper editor, John L. O'Sullivan declared " the right of our manifest destiny to over spread and to possess the whole of the continent, which Providence has given us for the development of the great experiment of liberty and federative development of self government entrusted to us."

An early expansion of land that was considered a legitimated right happened in 1818 when Major General Andrew Jackson took up arms against the Indians in the Florida territory. The reason for the attack was to protect the white people, who planted crops in the Florida territory, from the marauding Indians. However, the white people had actually planted crops illegally on Spanish territory. Spain had its own problems within South America and eventually signed an agreement to sell the territory to the United States for the sum of five million dollars.

For some futurists, the attitude of "Manifest Destiny" included the prospect of eventually populating the entire land from the Atlantic to the Pacific Oceans. For many there was the belief that an endless amount of farmland was available in the west. What actually happened, was that the entire land was somewhat populated within just two hundred and fifty years. This land of ours was traversed from the earliest colonies of the 1600's to the forty-niner gold-seeking miners of 1850. Most of the good farmland, from coast to coast, was generally inhabited by the early 1900's.

# U.S. Territorial MAP



## **The Mexican American War (1846-1848)**

A belief in the concept of “Manifest Destiny” provided the moral backing of the population in 1846 to go to war with Mexico to protect the American citizens of the Mexican Province of Texas.

The Province of Texas became a Mexican state following the independence of the Mexican government from Spain. The Texas province was difficult to govern due to its remote distance from the capital of Mexico City. Thousands of adventurous American citizens were lured to Texas with the promise of free farmland and liberal local government. Political and social conditions changed when a new Mexican president, Santa Anna, instilled harsh rules and controls over the citizens of Texas.

The Texas War of Independence began when the Texas citizens rebelled against the strict control of Santa Anna. The Battle of the Alamo was a crushing defeat to the Texas rebels. However, General Sam Houston later led the Texan army to victory when Santa Anna’s army was defeated in battle.

A new independent republic of Texas was later annexed to the United States. This breakaway action of the Texas republic from Mexico created the beginning of the Mexican American War of 1846. The war with Mexico eventually became a major effort by the United States Army in its ultimate victory over the Mexican Army. There was a young lieutenant engaged in the battle with Mexico by the name of Ulysses S. Grant, who would eventually become a household name within a few years.

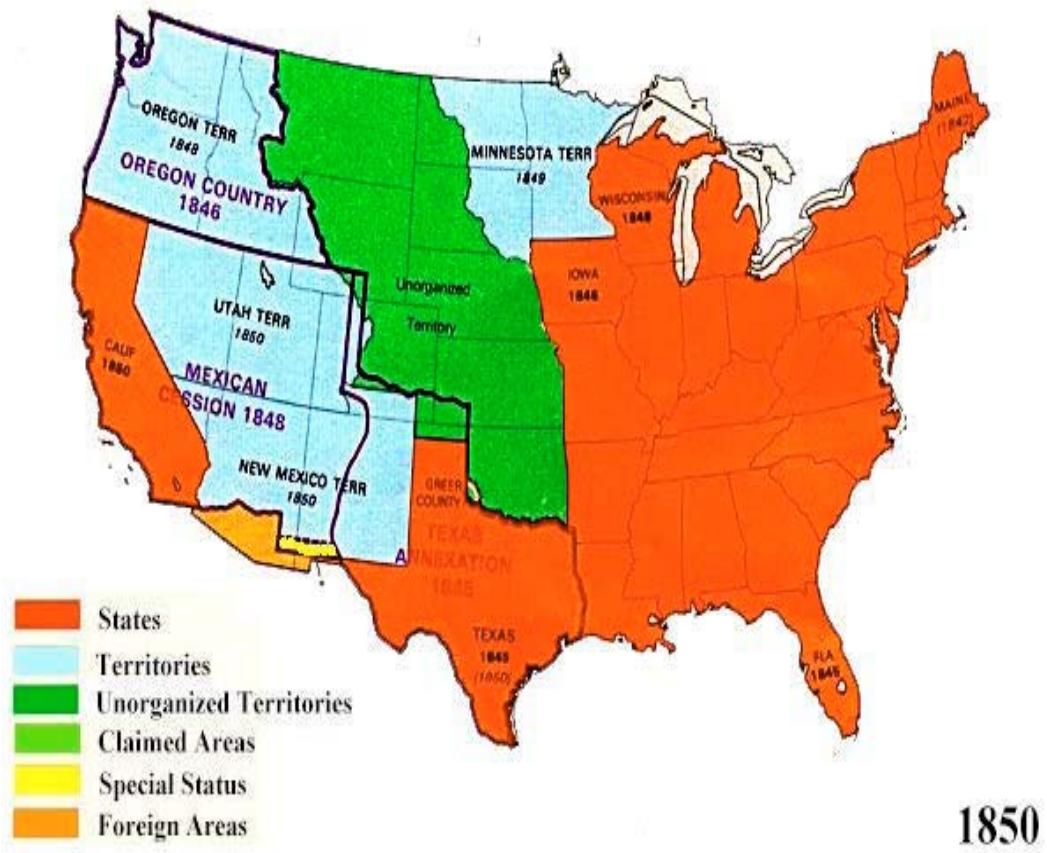
The Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo was signed in 1848. The treaty called for the annexation of all northern portions of land beyond the Rio Grand River to the United States. The United States agreed to pay fifteen million dollars to Mexico for the seizing of the northern territory.

The United State had finally reached the lands of the Pacific Coast. It was but a few months later that the gold rush in California would start and thousands of people would migrate to the west coastal lands of the Pacific coast.

Many American families entered into the Oregon Country during the middle 1800’s. There had been a long dispute with Great Britain over the boundaries of the Pacific northwestern territory. An Oregon Territory Treaty was agreed upon in 1846 when the 49<sup>th</sup> parallel with Canada was established as a northern boundary. This agreement also included all lands westward from the Rocky Mountains. A Territorial Government of Oregon was established in 1848. Today, the states of Washington, Oregon and Idaho cover the original Oregon Territory.

Indeed, the concept of “Manifest Destiny” seemed to have prevailed.

# U.S. Territory



## **The Civil War and the problem with Slavery**

Most everyone knows that the Civil War was caused because of the problem of slavery. Actually, if slavery did not exist then there would never have been a civil war between the southern and northern states.

Slavery was both an economic problem and a moral problem. The southern states depended on slavery as an economical condition of survival for their large cotton plantations. At the same time there were many farmers in the south that did not own or need slaves for their small plots of land. By the early 1800's most northern farmers and merchants did not own slaves. In 1808 the United States Congress passed a law that prohibited the importation of slaves. The southern states realized that they would be losing representative political power as new slave free states were being installed out into the western territories.

So the economical problem of slavery in the south became a political problem in the United States Congress. Southern politicians eventually convinced the majority of their constituents that they were losing their political influence in Washington and the best alternative was to succeed from the Union. Southern rebels sounded the beginning of the Civil War when they fired upon Fort Sumter on April 12, 1861. The newly elected president, President Lincoln, called upon the northern states to provide 75,000 troops in order to suppress the rebellion. The American Civil War had commenced.

On October, 15, 1861, my Great Grandfather, Benjamin Hanna Dunn and his friend William H. Lape enlisted into the Ninth Pennsylvania Cavalry, Ninety-Second Regiment. Benjamin was 21 years old at the time. The initial term of enlistment was for three years.

The Ninth Pennsylvania Cavalry was known as the Lockiel Cavalry and was organized on August, 29, 1861. Their first base of encampment was at Camp Cameron, near Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. The regiment was composed of twelve companies, each consisting of men from the same county. The troops eventually moved to Louisville, Kentucky for field training in the Department of the Cumberland, which was under the command of General Buell. The primary purpose of the Department of the Cumberland was to remove the rebel armies from their presence in Kentucky and Tennessee.

The book, "Yankee Cavalrymen, through the Civil War with the ninth Pennsylvania Cavalry" by John W. Rowell, traces the entire campaign of the 9<sup>th</sup> Cavalry.

On November 14, 1864 the 9<sup>th</sup> Regiment joined General Sherman at Marietta, Georgia and started on Sherman's historical "March from Atlanta to the Sea." The 9<sup>th</sup> Cavalry participated in major frontal attacks against the Confederate Army during the final battles of the republic. A white flag of surrender was delivered in the field to the 9<sup>th</sup> Cavalry and the final gun was fired under Sherman's command. The command later moved to Lexington, Kentucky where the men were mustered out of service on July 18, 1865.

The following is an excerpt from the memoirs of James C. Miller. Miller was a soldier with the 9<sup>th</sup> Pennsylvania Cavalry. He made many written recollections after his enlistment about his experiences during the Civil War. This installment tells of his memories during the last few days of the war. I am including a portion of Miller's recollections in order to provide a telling of one soldier's life during the very end of the Civil War.

[On April 10, 1865, we again left camp and comfortable quarters, commencing what proved to be our last campaign. Nothing eventful happened what I now remember until the 12<sup>th</sup>. On the evening of that day our regiment was sent to cut off and capture a train of supplies that was located about five miles to our right on a road leading to Raleigh. Cutting across through the pine woods just about sundown we came out of the woods near the main road and had to cross a field, throwing down the fences to pass through. As we did so the enemy pickets posted along a ridge saw us and commenced firing. We kept on and formed in the road and charged up the hill. About half-way up our Lt. Colonel's horse was shot out from under him and he stood on one side of the road and throwing up his hands shouted, "Go on boys! Go on!" And we went as we were supposed to capture a wagon train. Up the hill we went and over the top of the hill right into a brigade of rebel infantry.

Well, to make a long story short, we had a bit more than we could chew and we were repulsed, but we beat an orderly retreat. Among the wounded was our regimental surgeon, Doctor Moore, shot in the breast. He recovered, but not in time to see any more service.

We returned to camp after dark and were up and in line next morning at six o'clock and our whole division of cavalry charged from that point into Raleigh, a distance of seven miles. We took the city and planted our flag on the State House. Without stopping we marched on and struck the Rebels' rear.

We kept pushing them hard and fast all that day. I neglected to say that on the 12<sup>th</sup>, the day before we charged into Raleigh, we received news that Lee had surrendered his army to Grant. Such cheering I never heard in five years and it meant to us that the war was over and regiment after regiment took up the cheering as the courier came riding down the line and shouted the news as he waved the dispatch over his head.

On the following day we were still driving the enemy and near the close of the day we made a charge on them with our whole cavalry force and stampeded them. As we came out on a bluff overlooking a valley we could see their whole army below us and they seemed to be totally demoralized. We went into a barricaded camp, expecting some infantry up before morning. Up at reveille at four o'clock and found it raining. Marched all day and went into camp at Durham Station on the Raleigh and Charlotte RR. And barricaded our camp. It still rained.

This day I had my first tooth pulled by the surgeon of the 8<sup>th</sup> Indiana Cavalry, it having ached for several days caused by the exposure to wet weather. My jaw being very much swollen. I suppose it was not the proper thing to have it done at that time, but as the surgeon made no objection, out it came. I had suffered intensely with it for several days. The risk, I thought, was worth taking, so I sat outside of his tent on a log and he soon had it out. One of my back molars.

On this day a flag of truce passed between the two armies and we were notified that an armistice had been arranged and we were not to fire on the Rebs. On Monday Generals Sherman and Johnston met midway between the lines at Benton House, Sherman coming from Raleigh on the cars and taking an escort from the cavalry and riding out to Benton House. The first meeting was without results.

All this time numbers of paroled officers and men of Lee's army were passing through our lines on their way to their homes in the South and all seemed to be glad the war was over. On this day a rumor reached us that President Lincoln and five of his Cabinet had been assassinated at Washington. The two generals again met without results. The Rebel Secretary of War, John C. Breckinridge, was present.

We remained quietly in camp without anything unusual happening until the following day when the news of President Lincoln's assassination was confirmed, casting a great shadow of gloom and sorrow over us all. On Wednesday, April 26, 1865 General Sherman met General Johnston. Generals Schofield and Kippatrick were with Sherman. Terms of surrender were agreed to by Johnston.

I was one of the escorts, and when we arrived at Benton House we were joined by the Reb escorts that had come out with General Johnston and we held a reunion with them and talked over the different events that had recently occurred. One of them asked what all the cheering was about on a certain day, and we told them that was when we heard the news that Lee had surrendered to Grant. They said that they had not heard the news at that time, nor for several days after. They all, with one exception, expressed themselves as glad that the war was over. The exception was a young fellow who said he was a native of Charleston, South Carolina.

On our way back we came through Salisbury, North Carolina and as one of our company by the name of D.H. McClure whose brother James McClure had died in that prison, he and I rode over the ground enclosed by the stockade and the holes were still there where the poor prisoners had burrowed in the ground for shelter. We did not find James's grave. I suppose his may have been one of the unmarked graves. From here the regiment marched to Lexington, North Carolina where we encamped for some time, so that our division did not get up to Washington to take part in the Grand Review. We were finally discharged at Lexington on July 18, 1865, and leaving our horses there for the farmers to use, we were sent by rail to Washington, Baltimore, and Harrisburg, and mustered out at Camp Curtin, and here my story ends.]

The southern states were in total destruction at the end of the Civil War. General Sherman's determination to bring their infrastructure to total disaster created a devastating blow to the population. The need for both food and fuel were in short supply. Many of the cities and homes were burnt to the ground. Railroads and bridges were torn apart. Approximately 300,000 people died during the war. Adding to their problems were the bands of raiders who stole food, livestock and many family household goods from the southern families.

Relief agencies eventually entered the states with food and supplies for the freed slaves and poor whites. Some of the slaves stayed with their former masters in order to stay off of the burden of living alone. Their lives improved somewhat after new crops were available and homes were rebuilt. The federal government eventually created rebuilding plans and newly created state governments began to provide some law and order within the communities. Life would never be the same for the southern people. Their economic standard of life would continue to be substandard, relative to the rest of the nation, until well into the early years of the 1900's.

The following is an article that I found that really emphasizes the myth and the reality of what the southern states were, before and after the Civil War.

[What happens when a fairy tale has an unhappy ending? For some people, the *amabellum* or pre-Civil War South was an American fairy tale. There were handsome princes, ladies fair, and a noble code of honor. The pace of life was serene and genteel. But in this fairy tale, no one was destined to live happily ever after.

Even before the Civil War, the South was not quite the place of enchantment it might have seemed. The agricultural economy relied heavily on slave labor. Thousands of black slaves were forced to work on the large plantations. They certainly did not lead storybook lives. Neither, for that matter, did poor whites. The fabled Southern culture may have been real only to the wealthy upper class.

In any case, nothing was the same for anyone after the war. By the time of Lee's surrender at Appomattox, the South lay in ruin. Cities, farms, and homes were burned and ravaged by cannon fire. Railroads and bridges were destroyed. Business and industry were nearly wiped out. Almost 300,000 men were dead.

In the midst of this shattered fairy tale, daily life followed a rocky path. Everything from food to fuel was in short supply, if it could be found at all. Families dug in burned and shell-studded fields for root crops or any kind of edible vegetation. Tents or ruined houses were shelter for many. Disease added to the huge death toll.

The Deep South lay in desolation. The rubble was a monument to General William T. Sherman's determined destruction of anything that could be used by the Confederacy. Rebuilding was a much lower priority than survival.]

## **Life at Hanover Green**

My grandfather, Benjamin Joseph Dunn, received a Christmas card from a cousin in which she recites how her mother remembered seeing Benjamin Hanna Dunn returning home from the Civil War. Her mother said, [Aunt Alice and other school children were returning from school at Hanover Green when they saw the two tall soldiers wearing uniforms of the Northern Army and swords on their side coming down the road from Wilkes Barre. They followed them and when they came to your Grandma and Grandpa Dunn's home the one big soldier turned in there and Grandma Dunn put her arms around him and hugged and kissed him and cried]. That would be the moment that all of the families were hopefully waiting for. Their sons returning home alive and not maimed. Some statistics of the 194 men of Company D are as follows: 16 died of disease, 9 killed in battle, 4 wounded, 20 deserted and 8 taken prisoner. Most of the men who returned home picked up their tools and resumed the way of life they had lived before the war.

On April 17, 1866 my great grandfather Benjamin married Mary Elizabeth Rhines. Benjamin was 26 years old at the time. Mary was born on March 1846 in New Jersey. Four of their children were born in Hanover Township. They were Minnie ( b. 1867 ), Eva ( b. 1869 ), Benjamin Joseph ( b. Dec.28, 1872 ) and Harry ( b. 1878 ).

Henry B. Plumb comments in his "History of Hanover Township and Wyoming Valley" about the prosperity of that day: [The township and the boroughs within it continued to prosper from 1870 till 1873, when stagnation overtook them, and no progress was made in business, in property or in the condition of affairs until 1880. The strike of 1877 put the finishing touch to the want and distress of the inhabitants. The strike lasted six months, and for the next two years many families had to live on mush and molasses. No building was done unless where it was absolutely necessary. No new mines were opened, no extension of old ones was made. After 1880 affairs grew slowly better, and in 1882 many new houses were built and old ones repaired and occupied, because rents could be of sufficient to justify the outlay. New mines were opened and old ones enlarged. House-building flourished in 1882 and the railroads were crowded with passengers as never before, and all the appearances of prosperity had come again.]

Mr. Plumb goes on to say [the taxes are very high the reason for it is that assessments are made by assessors not elected by the owners of property, or by their friends and neighbors, but persons in general, not owners of anything and not responsible. The local taxes are also levied, collected and expended by the same class of person. It may therefore be surmised that the taxes will be put, as they are where these people rule, to the highest point the law allows, and frequently higher, and that this condition of things is growing more and more oppressive every year.] Another comment of that time was [There are but few Americans here now, whether natives of the township or new-comers. They are not liked by the foreigners. The foreigners are about the same in nationalities as in 1870; being English, Irish, Welsh, German, Swede, Swiss, French, Polanders, Hungarians, Canadians and Scotch.]

Moving westward:

My grandfather, Benjamin Joseph, did mention at times about the steady diet of mush that he remembered when he was a child.

It was during the years of 1878 to 1879 that Benjamin Hanna moved his family to the town of Chepstow, Washington County, Kansas.

The Kansas Territory was established and opened for settlement by the United States Government in 1854. Many immigrants soon populated the eastern lands of the territory. The Kansas territory eventually became the 35<sup>th</sup> state on January 29, 1861.

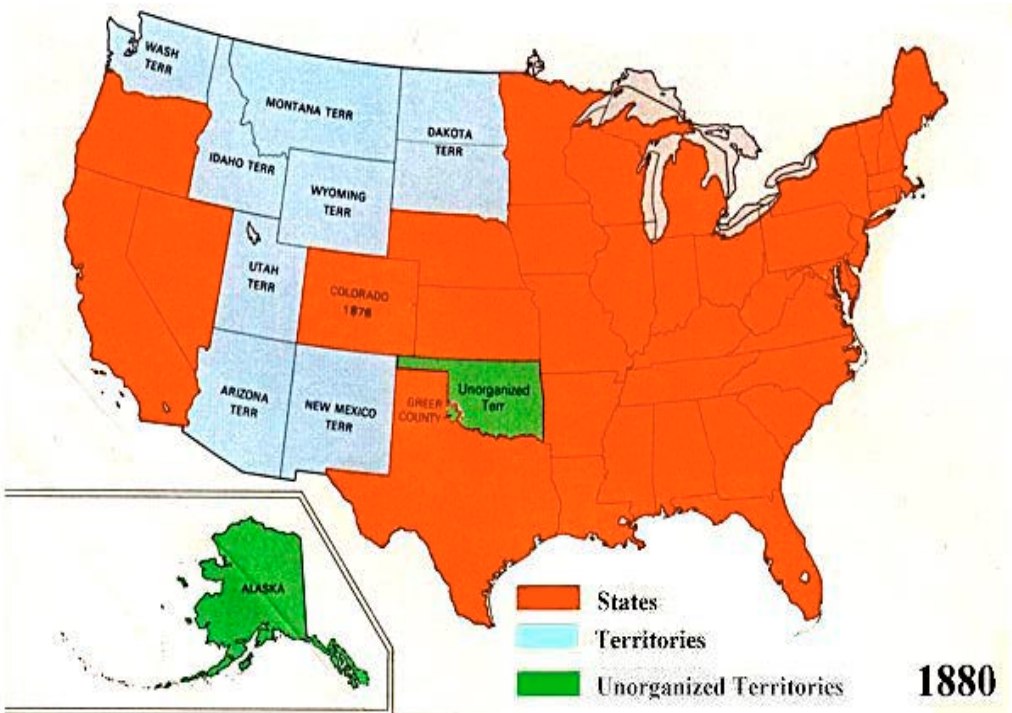
There was a Homestead Act enacted in 1862 that allowed for private citizens to acquire 160 acres in many of the lands west of the Mississippi River for a total cost of \$18. This act allowed ten-percent of the total land of the country to be turned over to private citizens. Each homesteader had to be over twenty-one years of age and the head of a household in order to acquire land that cost only eleven cents an acre. Each homesteader had to live on the land, build a home, make improvements, and farm for five years before he was eligible to be entitled to his land ownership.

It appears that Benjamin Hanna must have taken advantage of this greatest of all time land bargains. His active participation during the Civil War may have been helpful in obtaining a land grant.

The early railroads during the late 1800's eliminated many hardships for the families who desired for a new life out into the western territories. I have plotted out a railroad route that the family may have taken when they traveled from Hanover, Pennsylvania to their destination in Kansas.

They could have taken passage from Wilkes-Barre to Philadelphia via the Lehigh Valley Railroad. They may have then traveled on the Pennsylvania Railroad that connected Philadelphia to Chicago. The Chicago Rock Island Railroad would then connect them to the town of Atchison, Kansas. Another train was then available, the Missouri Pacific Railroad, that would take them to Greenleaf, Kansas. They would then travel about ten miles by carriage to the little town of Chepstow. Their possible, somewhat complicated travel agenda, was certainly an improvement over the use of the old Conestoga wagon.

# U.S. TERRITORIAL MAP



Most of the population increase in Kansas, during the late 1800's, took place within the eastern portion of the state. The low cost land deeds along with the arrival of the new railroads brought in thousands of new settlers. In many cases it was the railroads that made the towns. At one point in time Kansas had more miles of railroads per capita than any other state in the union.

Large land grants were given to the railroad companies in order to offer incentives for laying railway tracks throughout the territory. These land grants often offered as much as 6400 acres per mile of railroad construction. The railroad companies advertised land real-estate news articles to far off European nations. For many years there was a real-estate mania going on in Kansas.

The gun slinger reputation of western Kansas slowly diminished. The Dalton, Quantrill, James gangs, and others, were either hunted down and shot, or retired from their criminal past. A popular photo in the eastern papers often showed a US Marshall holding up a dead gang member.

There is Dunn family lore that claims that my great grandfather, Benjamin Hanna and son, Benjamin Joseph, both met Jesse James near their home in Chepstow, Kansas. Jesse was asking for directions to locate a friend of his. Jesse James later caught up with his demise when in 1882, he was shot in the back at his home in St. Joseph, Missouri. St. Joseph is a little over one hundred miles northeast from Chepstow.

One of the most troublesome aspects of day to day Kansas life, was living with the weather. In many places the extreme cold winters along with the high winds from the north made day to day living a tremendous challenge. There was a notorious cold winter during the latter 1800s which was referred to as "The Blizzard of 86." An old story tells of a man, who was found frozen to death while carrying an advertisement announcing. "Ye people of the frozen north. Why will you continue to shiver in the boreal blasts of a country where the icy chains of winter fetter the step of spring. Come to Kansas, the Italy of America, whose skies are as calm as a painter's canvas and where hoary winter has yielded permanent possession to laughing spring." The moral to that advertisement is "Let the buyer beware."

There was a common discussion, during the latter part of the 1800's, that made reference to the many tornadoes that were occurring across Kansas. The people of that time used the term "cyclones" instead of the more general terminology of "tornado." My grandmother, Lena Dunn, always used the term "cyclone" when she described the terror of the tornadoes. Kansas had some killer tornadoes that occurred from 1879 to 1893. One tornado occurred in April 25, 1896, when it traveled through Washington County where eleven deaths were recorded. The tornado leveled a one-half mile swath through twenty-seven farm homes. Newspapers reported that [everything was leveled as if a roller had passed over it, and the body a dead child was reportedly carried for a half mile.]

## **Laying new railroad track**

Six hundred miles west of Saint Louis, Missouri.  
About 170 miles west of Chepstow.

Railway ties appear to be round logs. Probably not very reliable for passenger safety.

1687



Courtesy of the Kansas Historical Society.

## **Why did they move to Kansas ?**

The question as to why the Benjamin Hanna Dunn family removed from Hannover Township to the little town of Chepstow, has only one easy answer. Economics. There were few jobs available at Hannover. Many of the coalmines in near by Wilkes-Barre had either laid off many of their employees, or closed down their doors. Some historians estimate that the economic depression of 1873 was in many ways equivalent to the Great Depression of 1929. The currency of the Confederate States was in complete ruin. The U.S. had abandoned the gold standard when the Civil War broke out and issued new fiat currency. By the end of the Civil War, in 1864, it cost fifty greenbacks (paper dollars) to purchase one twenty dollar gold coin. The greenback had lost over half its original purchasing value.

Many of the coalmines in Wilkes-Barre had either closed down or laid off many of their employees. Also, the life of a coal minor may not have had much appeal for Benjamin. And his children were having a steady diet of mush. The prospects of a life in Kansas with 160 acres of land for \$18 had to have a great appeal to the Dunn family in Wilkes-Barre.

There was an 1880 Lincoln Township, Washington County, census that identifies Benjamin Dunn, age 40 years old. The census includes his wife, Mary E. Dunn age 35, daughters Minnie, age 13, Eva, age 11 and sons Benjamin, age 7 and Harry, age 2. Two more children were born to the Dunn family in Chepstow. They were Lula, born about 1881 and Roy, born about 1885.

The following is a portion of a letter that my great grandfather wrote to his mother on July 18, 1881. [Dear Mother. Today I get my self to answer your ever welcome letter. We are very glad to hear from you and to hear you were well but sorry to hear the rest are having such sick times. We are all well here and never had better health. You said you supposed I was still working at my trade. Well I am and Mother, have more than I care to do. I have one man hired by the day. He has worked for me since first of April. He is learning the trade with me. I pay him \$1.00 a day. I am doing some nice work. I built one house this spring that every one brags on. It was two story and a half high. Am now building a barn.] Benjamin was a carpenter by trade and a farmer by necessity. His letters indicate that he and his family were living a good life in the rich farmland of Kansas.

Those early days in Kansas would have been a great adventure for the Dunn family. There was the birth of new children, new friends, and an exciting life in the western lands of the country. Eva was the great letter writer in the family. There are several letters that have been handed down through family members that show her excitement about living in her new home at Chepstow, Kansas.

The Benjamin Hanna Dunn family would have most defiantly had to provide for protective shelter against the oftentimes sub zero temperatures of the coming winter. I have no idea how my Dunn family existed during that first year in Chepstow. They may have been fortunate enough to rent a house for the going rate of about fifteen dollars a month. Or they may have rented a hotel room, or stayed at a friends home prior to building their new home.

I have been unable to find a picture of the town of Chepstow. However, the picture below shows the 1867 town of Manhatten, which was about fifty miles south of Chepstow. The picture depicts the atmosphere of the area just prior to about ten years when the Dunn family arrived in eastern Kansas. The picture shows the rolling hills with but few trees to decorate the environment.



Courtesy of the Kansas Historical Society.

## SETTLED IN THEIR NEW HOME

Eva tells her grandmother, in a June 1887 letter, about a picture that they had taken in front of their home. [They are real good excepting Bennie and Ma and myself. There is no one thinks it is me at all. One thing, I held my dead down. The sun was shinning in my eyes so. But all the rest are very good to be taken out of doors. I will show you our old homestead.]

The following picture of the Dunn farmhouse was the one just described by Eva. Eva is on the left with her head tilted down. Eva would have been 18 years old at the time. Minnie, 20 years old, is to the right of Eva. Next to Minnie is her mother Mary, age 42. Benjamin, age 47, is seated and holding Leroy ( Roy) age 1 or 2 years. My grandfather, Bennie, is holding his hat. Lula, who would be about 6, is also holding her hat. On the far right is Harry, who would have been about 9 years old.

The home looks to be made from stone and mortar. Benjamin mentions in some letters about hauling sand and doing masonry work for other farmers. Notice the lightening rod he installed on top of the roof.



**THE TRAVELING PHOTOGRAPHER  
1867**

This rig is really a horse driven photographer's darkroom.



8"x 8" photo image format

Courtesy of the Kansas Historical Society

Benjamin Hanna was referred to as Benny and his son Benjamin Joseph had the same nickname, but spelled it Bennie. This helped when reading some of the family letters that were sent back to Hanover, Pennsylvania.

Benjamin Hanna mentioned in a March 1882 letter that he was going to plant forty acres of corn in the coming summer. He then had his own team of horses and was going to sink a well. There were also several people that were after him to do some mason work. In a letter to his mother on April 1884, he tells about making a fence of hey brush with barbwire around one and one-half acres to contain his hogs. They had five cows and were raising calves. There were now three workhorses and two one-year old colts. He was also working on building his house.

His wife, Mary, writes in another letter about how the country is changing around the area. People were building and improving their places. Large groves were growing and tall trees made the countryside more like home. She had thirty-five hens and four turkey hens and a gobbler. She planned on increasing the flock.

She mentions in an April 1884 letter about Easter Sunday. [Today is Easter Sunday. I wish you could of seen Bennie this morning. He had been hiding eggs for Easter. He had seven dozen of eggs. He brought them in before any of us was up.]

One 1887 letter from Eva (Evelyn) relates about her father's broken jaw. This story emphasizes the sometime physical pain our ancestors had to endure that contrasts with our modern day painkiller therapies. [Well, I will say Papa is not feeling very well. He is having quite a time with his jaw. I suppose you heard how he was hurt. He was hurt in February and can not eat anything that is hard. Yet his jaw was broken and the doctor did not set it right and a doctor in Greenleaf says he will have to have it broken over again before it will ever get well. He said he would fix it for fifty dollars.]

Most of Eva's letters amount to how they miss their relatives in Hanover Township, Pennsylvania, and how they feel that they may never see most of their relatives again. The cost of travel and the inability to leave their farm unattended for even a brief period of time created family separations that would last a lifetime.

Benjamin Hanna died of tuberculosis on September 20, 1891. He may have contracted the disease during the Civil War when he was in close contact with many other men who were undernourished and in poor health. The infection can lie dormant in the body until years later when it can become active after some other disease has weakened the body's defenses.

Benjamin may have infected some of his children with the disease. Harry died of TB in 1888 from tuberculosis. Both daughters Minnie and Lula died of TB during the early 1900's. Our ancestors had to endure tremendous grief when many unexpected deaths occurred in their families during the 1800's and early 1900's.

My grandfather, Benjamin Joseph, was just three months shy of being nineteen years old when his father, Benjamin Hanna died. He was then responsible for the wellbeing of his entire family. He most likely would have already learned many aspects of the challenges that he faced in managing the farm. It was many years later that I was able to observe, as a child, how he could butcher a steer, manage his meat market and grocery store as well as repair just about anything that needed to be fixed at home.

America was experiencing major changes during the latter part of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Thomas Jefferson had envisioned an America of working farmers in small self-governing communities. By the late 1800's little more than a third of the nation was working the farms. The industrial revolution had arrived. Henry Ford was experimenting with motorized wagons and Thomas Edison was entertaining the people with the flickers (movies). America was admitting one million immigrants a year and the cities had become overcrowded and disorderly.

The following picture shows my grandfather, with a friend, in his horse driven buggy.



Lula Dunn and my grandmother, Lena Theresa Anderson, were close friends. Lena evidently caught my grandfather's eye. They were married on June 2, 1897. My grandfather would have been twenty-four years old at the time.

Lena was born on May 1, 1879 in Chepstow Kansas. She was named after the passage ship, "The Lena Theresa", that brought over the Anderson family to the colonies. Her parents, Charles Augustus and Stovia Anderson, were immigrants from Sweden.

Charles Anderson opened a general store and a U.S. post office in Chepstow Kansas. Historic records of Kansas Post Offices identify that a Chepstow post office was established from June 22, 1874 to August 31, 1905. This would have been the time period that Charles operated his general store. The following picture shows the Anderson store and U.S. Post Office during the latter years of the 1800's.

My grandmother, Lena, is standing on the left side of the porch, next to her brother, Emanuel. Her mother, Stovia, is standing on the right hand side of the porch next to her daughter, Mary. Charles Augustus is standing in front of the porch. In the buggy to the right are Lena's brother, Victor and sister, Esther. In the buggy on the left is Mary's husband, Hank Knight with my grandmother's sister, Hilda and Mary's baby Cynthia.



My grandmother's younger sister, Hilda, died on July 30, 1895. She was only fourteen years old. Hilda's mother, Stovia, was unable to withstand her great distress over the death of her young daughter. There was an article in the local Lincoln County newspaper in 1895 that related the following. [Mrs. Charles Anderson died at her home at Chepstow, Sunday, November 3, 1895. A strange circumstance is connected with her death. She had not been sick a day, but went to bed Monday and never awoke until a few minutes before her death., and then only showed little signs of being in a rational condition. She slept soundly for seven days and night, and was, apparently all right. Several medical men were called and tried all manners of means to awaken her but all to no purpose. We have been told that since the death of her daughter, last spring, she has at times acted strangely and complained of pain in her head. The only cause that could be assigned for the strange malady was grief.]

My great grandmother, Mary Dunn, moved to a rented home with her daughter, Lula, somewhere in Lincoln County. A 1900 census for the county listed Mary at 64 years of age and Lula at 19 years of age. Lula later became a teacher. Unfortunately, Lula died at a very young age during the early 1900's. Mary eventually lived into her old age with her daughter, Eva. Mary died in 1941 at the age of 95. She lived about fifty years beyond the death of her husband, Benjamin Hanna. Eva also became a schoolteacher. She later married a Mr. Warren Mauhaffey who was the editor and owner of a newspaper in Ciro Nebraska. My grandfather's brother, Roy, owned a business college in Grand Island, Nebraska. He was later killed in an automobile accident.

Families entered the Kansas territory in large numbers during the late 1800's. The opportunities for inexpensive land and a new life away from the crowded conditions of the east were an enticing attraction for thousands of immigrant families. However, the reality of life in the land of Kansas soon dimmed the fantasy into a reality that many families could not endure. The remoteness of family living, the extreme coldness of winter and the many disastrous crop failures soon took a tremendous toll onto people's lives. All was not gleaming in the emerald city.

In Washington County, Kansas, where my Dunn family resided there were 22,894 people residing there in 1890. By the year 2005 there were only 6,009 people within the county. The town of Chepstow had a population of 25 in 1910. Today, the town no longer exists. Again, it has been most likely the economic conditions and the environment of the times that caused the reduction in population within Washington County. One Washington County resident of the area recently said, "the whole county is on the verge of disappearing.

In June of 1903, another economic depression had taken hold of the nation. Six hundred banks and seventy-four railroad companies had closed their doors. Deflation and dropping commodity prices were forcing hard times onto the Midwest farmers. The greatest advantage the farmers had during the depression was their ability to put food on to the table.

There is only a graveyard that remains to indicate that there was once a town, called Chepstow, that was located in Lincoln County in the past.

Within the graveyard there are some gravestones that are identifiable.

There is one gravestone that is broken with only the bottom portion remaining and an inscription that says.

**Vet 1861-1865 civil war vet**

That would be my great grandfather's gravesite, Benjamin Hanna Dunn. He enlisted into the Ninth Pennsylvania Cavalry on October 15, 1861 at Hanover Township, New Jersey, and was discharged with his regiment on July 18, 1865. He died of tuberculosis on September 20, 1891.

There is another gravestone next to Benjamin's gravesite. The gravestone inscription states:

**DUNN Harry D. son of B & ME Dunn  
Died Sept. 8, 1888 10 yrs 8 mos 13 dys**

This gravesite would be for Benjamin Hanna's youngest son, Harry Dunn. He also died of tuberculosis. The B & ME Dunn would be for Benjamin and Mary Elizabeth Dunn.

There are two other gravesites that are identifiable.

**ANDERSON Gustava Nov 28, 1837 – Nov 3, 1895**

This gravesite would be for Stovia Anderson. I believe she changed her first name from Gustava to Stovia when she entered the United States. Or maybe it was a nickname. Stovia was my grandmother Dunn's mother.

**Hildegard dau of C & S died july 30, 1895 brn Apr 24, 1881**

This gravesite would be for Hilda Anerson, the daughter of Charles Augustus and Stovia Anderson. The C & S would be for Charles and Stovia.

I recently identified these gravesites to the Lincoln County Historical Society at the town of Washington, in Lincoln County, Kansas. The historical society also has some Dunn and Anderson family pictures that I sent to them.

I have not been able to find a picture of the town of Chepstow. I was able to locate a picture of the town of Greenleaf, which is about ten miles north of Chepstow. This picture was probably taken during the 1890's. There are no automobiles showing in the picture, however, there are telephone lines that are strung along the side of the road. The telephone industry consisted of about six thousand companies during the last decade of the 1800's, when telephone lines were strung throughout the country.

This picture scene of an old western town would probably represent the beginning of a more modern generation that was about to arise. The town's population in 2000 was 357 people.

This is the town where my father, Floyd Omar Dunn, was born, in October 14, 1899.



## **Another war to be fought:**

The United States was a major player as a military nation by the end of the 19th century. The other major players were England, France and Spain. However, most European governments did not universally acknowledge the recognition of a United States as a major military power.

Spain had scattered possessions within various parts of the world. There were many popular uprisings against the Spanish within both Cuba and the Philippines during that period of time. Spain had one big problem. There were little financial resources to support their far off possessions. They solved the problem by capturing rebels and placing them into concentration camps. Two hundred thousand Cubans died of starvation and disease during those troubling times. Many executions were carried out. The tide turned on the Spanish when they were defeated and the rebels controlled most of the eastern countryside of Cuba.

The newspapers in the United States printed daily critical stories about the cruelty that was being inflicted upon the Cuban population. The American public was eventually swayed into demanding intervention by the U.S. government to help the people of Cuba who were so close to the Florida shores.

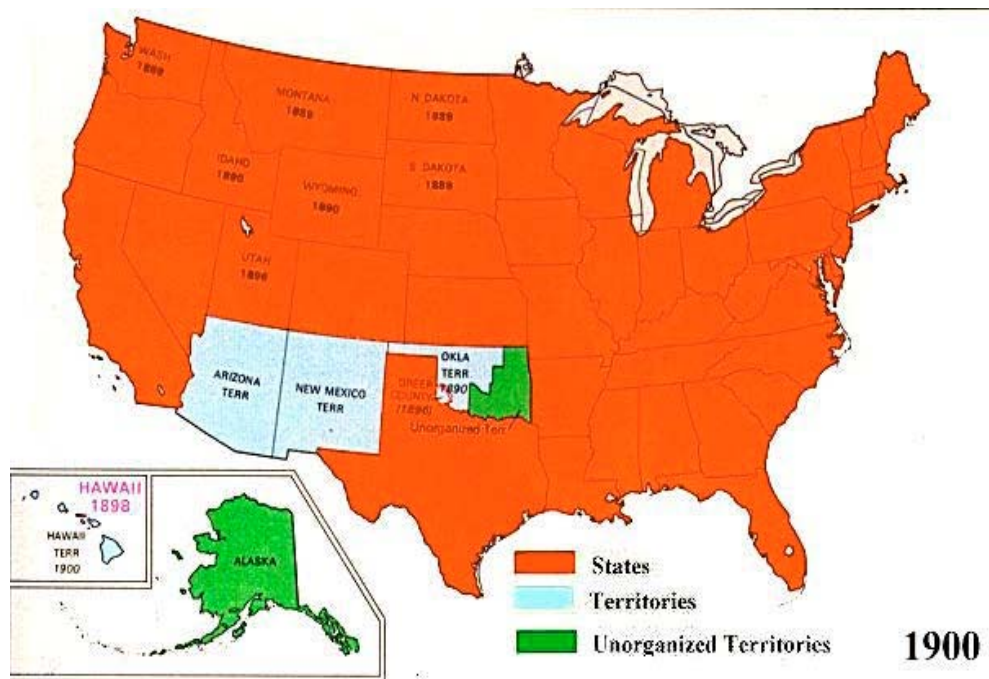
In April, 1898, the U.S. Congress voted for authority to send American troops to Cuba with the purpose of providing a free and independent government of Cuba.

The Spanish Navy had a history of many successful engagements. The general thought within the Spanish government was that the United States Navy would never be a match to their more powerful navy. The first sea battle with Spain occurred in the Philippines, when the U.S. Pacific fleet, under the command of Commodore Dewey, defeated the Spanish fleet. The Philippine opposition forces eventually defeated the Spanish army in the “battle of Manila” in July 1898.

An all-volunteer cavalry, known as the “Rough Riders”, was organized and sent to Cuba where they established a base at Guantanamo Bay. Eventually a combined force of the cavalry and 15,000 regular infantrymen attacked the Spaniards at the “battle of San Juan Hill.” Further ground and naval battles occurred until a peace agreement was signed in Paris in December 1898. The United States gained control of about all of Spain’s colonies, including Cuba, the Philippines, Guam and Puerto Rico. Eventually Cuba and the Philippines were given independence. The United States still maintains control of Guantanamo Bay, Guam and Puerto Rico to this day.

Hawaii was annexed to the United States in 1898. A coup in the islands occurred in 1893 when the American planters along with American military forces deposed Queen Liliuokalani from power. Hawaii was made a U.S. territory in 1900 and a state in 1959.

# U.S. TERRITORIAL MAP



## **Manifest Destiny Achieved:**

By the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, the individual forty-eight states within our government covered the land from the eastern to the western shores. The belief in “manifest destiny” had become a reality in many people’s minds.

Jefferson’s dream of a rural America with small individual family farms never became a reality. At the beginning of the 1800’s there were about 5.3 million people within the United States. By the end of that century there were 76.2 million people who were residence of the new nation. The increase in population was due to large families and new immigrants entering the nation in large numbers during the late 1800s.

During the latter part of the 19<sup>th</sup> century there was a large urban growth within the major cities. Between 1880 and 1900, the cities grew by about 15 million people. Many small towns lost as much as forty percent of their population. The cities were where the manufacturing jobs were. The massive number of new immigrants was generally forced to work long hours for meager wages. Hiring children as young as twelve was not that uncommon. These conditions set the stage for the forming of trade labor unions and child labor laws that took place during the early 1900s.

Other aspects of society also changed. Some of the new immigrants were associated with the Mafia, which became the largest organized crime group in the country. The Mafia, is a loose term that describes Sicilian family members of the La Cosa Nostra. The extortion of money from local family businesses was their favorite method of obtaining large amounts of cash. They generally operated within their own city neighborhoods. Most entered the United States after they were forcefully removed from their Sicilian homeland. Their criminal activities would eventually provide Hollywood the opportunity to produce the many gangster movies of the 1930s.

The technological developments of the late 1800’s set the stage for new products that would change society at a rapid pace. There were the telephone lines that provided correspondence over long distances. The radio gave the national evening news at bedtime to people all over the country. Airplanes were delivering the mail over long distances. Modern kitchen appliances made cooking an easier chore for mothers. New modern automobiles allowed families to travel on weekend jaunts. The historical age of the 19<sup>th</sup> century became known as “The Industrial Revolution.”

My grandfather, Benjamin Joseph, started life driving a horse driven buggy and ended up, later on, driving in his new Oldsmobile across the nation to the 1939 New York Worlds Fair. The technological developments of the late 1800’s really set the stage for a new prosperous nation that would thrive, with a few interruptions, and create a different manner of living for the general population. It really set the stage for the high technology age that later on started after the Second World War.



This is a picture of my grandparents, Benjamin Joseph and Lena Theresa Anderson Dunn. The picture was taken the day after they were married. Early photography required long exposures. I imagine that it was quite difficult to hold a smile for several seconds while the picture was being taken.

My grandmother had a great fear of the cyclones (tornadoes) that she had experienced near the town of Chepstow. This could have been their major reason for their desire to leave Kansas. There was also another major recession that occurred in 1893 that was one of the most worst in American history. The recession finally ended in 1897. The lowered commodity prices must have placed a heavy toll on the local farmers.

In June 22, 1898 my grandparents first child, Bertha Mae, was born. It was during 1898 that my grandparents decided to strike out and seek their fortune in the Northwest. Their decision to leave Kansas could have been due to the lingering 1893 recession and the desire for a better life, away from tornadoes, in the bustling timber industry of Washington State. I will never know their real purpose for leaving Kansas, but it did complete the travels of the Dunn family lineage from the Atlantic to the Pacific Ocean. They were popularizing the favorite 19<sup>th</sup> century slogan, "Go west, young man."

## TRAVELING WEST TO HOQUIAM:

The following is an article from a local 1987 Grays Harbor Washington senior citizen newsletter called "Newrinkle".

[In the year 1897, B.J. and Lena Dunn were married and lived in a town called Chepstow amid the farmlands of Kansas. The following year, a daughter, Bertha, was born. Lena, a native of Kansas was terrorized by the cyclones which swept across the plains. She was determined to move to an area where the elements were kinder.

Later that year, in 1898, the Dunns and another young couple, each with a tiny baby, boarded the train to leave Kansas. As they were going "north" they all brought fur coats to withstand the cold climate of Washington State. They also brought a washtub in which were packed as much of their belongings as would fit. The train had a car with a stove where the passengers could cook their meals, and tables and benches were available for their use. When a train stopped at a station along the way, the two fathers would disembark long enough to buy milk and whatever other foods were being sold to the passengers by local vendors. They arrived at their destination, Puyallup, after a slow and uncomfortable journey.

No sooner were the Dunns settled in when Lena was pregnant with her second child. She was so lonesome and unhappy away from family and friends that they went back to Kansas to await the birth of their child. Their son, Floyd, was born in August without mishap. But once again, faced with overwhelming fright of the destructive winds, Lena and B.J. decided to leave Kansas and go west, this time with two small children.

On their previous stay in Washington, they had heard about the huge forests around Grays Harbor. Logging had created a booming industry which seemed to be centered around a town called Hoquiam. This, they decided, would be their new home.

Lena and B.J. Dunn arrived in Hoquiam in 1899 with their children Bertha and Floyd. B.J. had previously learned butchering in Kansas, a trade he found wanting in this area. He and Lena were quickly hired by Bernard's Logging Camp on Bernard Creek, a small stream which emptied into the Hoquiam River. While B.J. supplied the food for the camp, Lena did the cooking, not an easy task while caring for an energetic two-year-old. The baby was no problem but Bertha required constant watching. Her mother solved that dilemma by tying the child to a table leg in the camp kitchen while she prepared meals for the loggers. There Bertha would sit under the table and entertain herself by singing what little songs she could invent.

Lena and B.J. stayed at the logging camp long enough to acquire funds to go into business for themselves. They first bought a hotel in Hoquiam at the site of the present day Schoenfeld's store. Early in the 1900's, they sold the hotel and opened a cash-and-carry, serve yourself store which they called "Home Grocery and Meat".

During the early grocery store years, a third child was born to the Dunns. They named the second daughter, Elizabeth. She grew up in Hoquiam and was married to George Karshner whose family was in the retail food business in Aberdeen.

The Dunn family left Hoquiam for a short period. When they returned B.J. and his son Floyd opened a new grocery store. Dunn's Market supplied food and staples to the area for many years. Floyd, who worked in partnership with his father, became ill and died in 1941. B.J. kept the store open for a time but finally sold it during World War II.]

My grandfather, Benjamin, obviously saw an opportunity for an improved economic life out in the lumber industry within the Pacific North West.

Grays Harbor is named after Captain Robert Gray who was the first white man to discover and enter the harbor on his ship, the Columbia, in May 7, 1792. There were many curious Indians that came alongside the ship when Gray entered the harbor. Gray left on May 11 and set sail towards the south where he discovered the great river of the West, which he named the Columbia, after his ship.

In the early 1860's a Mr. Ed Campbell purchased property from the Indians, along the east bank of the Hoquiam River. Campbell applied for a US post office in 1867 and in his application he came up with the name "Hoquiam", after the Indian name for the local river. The name "Hoquiam" was derived from the Chehalis Indian word of "Ho-qui-ulmpts", which meant "hungry for wood". This must have been a word the Chehalis Indians used when they observed the white mans thirst for cutting down the trees.

In 1880 Ed Campbell received a visitor named George Emerson. Emerson was assigned to explore sawmill possibilities on Grays Harbor for A.M. Simpson of San Francisco. Emerson eventually decided to build the first saw mill along the Hoquiam River and by the Fall of 1882 the first lumber was cut. In 1884 the mill was incorporated under the name of "The North Western Lumber Company" with a capitalized value of one million dollars.

Timber barons from the east began investing in land and constructed lumber mills along the northern shores of the harbor, adjacent to Hoquiam and Aberdeen. By the 1880's large schooners began to load and deliver the cut lumber to many nations throughout the world. This event set the trend for a large industrial complex that would last through World War II. At one time there were more millionaires per capita than in any other towns in the nation.

It had to be a real cultural change for my Dunn family at Grays Harbor, compared to life in the little town of Chepstow, Kansas.

Hoquiam is a twin city with Aberdeen, with Aberdeen always being the big brother of the two. In 1890 Hoquiam was incorporated with a population of about 1300 people. In 1895 the Northern Pacific railroad completed its first branch into Aberdeen. Four years later, in 1899, the railway was extended into Hoquiam. By 1899 my grandparents were probably able to travel on the railroad all of the way to Aberdeen and possibly as far as Hoquiam.

Most of the ethnic laborers that were attracted to Hoquiam were from Europe, especially Finns and Swedes. The logging camp population was made up mostly of single men who would work for several weeks before coming into town. Much of the downtown district consisted of boarding houses and hotels. The town also attracted many bawdyhouses and bars for the entertainment of the single citizenry. At one point in time there were at least fifteen liquor bars in the little town of Hoquiam. An occasional murder was not that uncommon. It was not until the 1920's that families began to dominate the citizenry and a certain amount of civil responsibility started to permeate throughout the town.

After arriving in Hoquiam, my grandfather soon acquired a job in a lumber mill. He worked at the mill for a short period of time and received the princely sum of one-dollar a day. This was a fairly low wage at that time. His income would probably pay for a small two bedroom apartment, or hotel room, that rented for about five dollars a month. He was evidently hired to sort wood. Most mills of that time worked between ten to twelve hour days. Much of the work was very repetitive and required little expertise. Benjamin soon after was seized by an attack of appendicitis. Complications then became potentially fatal when the appendix ruptured, spreading infection to his surrounding organs. He survived through emergency surgery but then a period of convalescence was required.

It was then that my grandparents went to work in a logging camp near Hoquiam. My grandmother did all of the cooking for the camp while my grandfather was able to do small chores while he regained his health. The meals at the camps were important issues for the loggers. These men worked hard twelve-hour days, six-day weeks and good food (grub) was a very important necessity. An entire crew in one 1901 logging camp gave up and quit when the "gut-robber's grub" was unpalatable.

But both by grandmother and grandfather knew how to cook and they soon became very popular in the camps. My grandfather provided the ingredients and my grandmother did most of the cooking. A cook had to be up and ready in the kitchen by 4:30 in the morning in order to provide a large breakfast for a typical crew of twenty some hungry men. Then soon after breakfast the preparations for lunch had to commence. This busy activity would go on for seven days a week, week after week. After a six-month stint the camp would have a few days rest when the men would head for town for some recreation and relaxation.

This 1903 picture shows the Hackett and Dineen logging camp where my grandparents cooked. This camp was on the Wishkah River near Aberdeen. My grandparent's reputation for great culinary art may have attracted Dineen's desire to steal away the Dunns from Bernard's camp. This was probably common practice in the logging camps of the early 1900's. My grandfather is seated third from the left with my father. Mr. Jim Hackett is seated to the right of my grandfather. Mr. Dan Dineen is holding his hat in the second row. These two pictures are presently on display at the Arnold Polson Museum in Hoquiam Washington.

My Aunt Elizabeth claims that my Aunt Berth Mae's little hand is shown just to the right had side of the doorway.



This is a picture of the Bernard Logging camp where my grandparents also cooked. My grandfather, Benjamin Dunn is standing in the back, second from the left, with his hat half-cocked on his head. My Aunt Bertha is standing to his right and my father, Floyd, is seated on the cable between two loggers.



These two pictures of Aberdeen were taken during the very early 1900s. Grays Harbor bay is off onto the horizon.



This picture shows a close look of the lumber mill. The lower picture shows the Barkentine (a three masted sailing vessel) Mary Winkelman at the port side of the mill, waiting for a load of lumber.



The first picture shows Heron Street in Aberdeen during a fourth of July celebration.

The second picture shows the Aberdeen high school in 1892.



This 1906 picture of Hoquiam shows the swinging bridge on the Hoquiam River that allowed traffic to pass over the bridge. It was but a few miles up the river where my grandparents cooked for the loggers at Bernard's logging camp. The second picture shows "Wilson's Logging Camp", which was probably typical of the times.



**Two logging camp pictures in early Grays Harbor:**



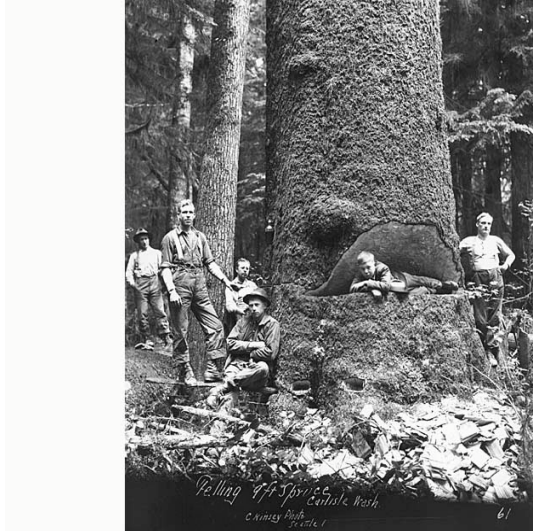
**Two loggers' ready to head for town**



Property of MSCUA, University of Washington Libraries. Photo Coll 516

**A typical logging camp kitchen**

**Two more logging camp pictures in early Grays Harbor:**



Property of MSCUA, University of Washington Libraries. Photo Coll 516

**Tree Fellers**



Property of MSCUA, University of Washington Libraries. Photo Coll 516

**Logging Crew**

## The technological generation:

The early times of the twentieth century brought in a new age for our country. Never before in our history had there been so many new conveniences for the public as well as the potential of creating job opportunities for both men and women. There were automobiles, radios, telephones, power driven tractors, phonographs, power transmission cables, flickers (movies), linotype (typesetting) machines, stock ticker tape machines, power driven printing presses and many new conveniences for the wife in the kitchen.

It was the most advanced period in the history of our nation. Never before had there been so many new conveniences for the public at large in such a short period of time. It was the age of invention and opportunity. People listened on the radio about the atomic bomb blasts at Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Japan, in 1945. Technology brought out both the best and the worst of conditions for modern societies.

At some point in time my grandfather became known as BJ. He was no longer Bennie to his friends. This nickname change may have taken place when he moved to Hoquiam, when he no longer wanted to be referred to as Bennie. Also, the name BJ resonates with greater respect than Bennie. The one person who still referred to my grandfather as Bennie, was my grandmother. I guess that she could never kick the habit. So for the rest of this story, and out of respect of my grandfather, I will refer to Benjamin Joseph as BJ.

My Aunt Elizabeth believes that my grandparents worked in the logging camps for about two years. I am sure that they did not see a promising future in cooking for hungry loggers. Their escape from the logging camps occurred when they were able to purchase a small hotel on Simpson Avenue in downtown Hoquiam. They may have cooked meals for the guests in the hotel. After two to three years they grew tired of the business and were able to sell the hotel.

It may have been sometime after 1905 when my grandmother's father, Charles Anderson, decided to move to Hoquiam. It was 1905 when the post office in Chepstow closed its door. He wanted to be close to his favorite daughter, my grandmother, after the death of his wife. Charlie felt a real friendship towards my grandparents and I believe that he must have helped them in many ways during the latter part of his life.

Charlie was married for a short period of time after he moved to Hoquiam. Family legend has it that the marriage was quite turbulent and the two soon parted company. It was rumored that most of their problems occurred from disagreements when they were either playing checkers or cards. His investments in property in Hoquiam and the nearby town of Elma must have been very fruitful since local wages were rising and the communities were growing.



This is the home that my grandparents moved into about the year 1913. Seated are my father, Floyd, and my grandmother, Lena. She was always Grandma to me. My Aunt Bertha and my grandfather's cousin, George Menzen , are at the front of the porch. Almost hidden in the shade are Charles ( Charley ) Anderson and my grandfather Dunn. My grandmother's brother, Augus, took this picture with his new Kodak camera. Augus was murdered in Kansas City sometime after this picture was taken. He was flashing a roll of bills in a barbershop. Two men followed him out of the barbershop and shot him. They were later caught and served time in the Leavenworth Penitentiary in Kansas.

The shingle design on the house was almost universal of the homes in Hoquiam at that time. The house was on the property of Charles Anderson. The property also included two stores and another house. The property eventually passed on to my grandparents after Charles died in 1925.

## BJ's New Store:



BJ opened his new store on their Hoquiam property in 1913. He is standing in the front of the store. It was on the East Side of the Hoquiam River. He called it the “Independent Groceries and Dry Goods Store.” The store carried groceries, dry goods and hardware items. He also had a meat market on the right hand side, which he called “The East Side Market.” This type of neighborhood store was very popular during the early 1900s. They offered groceries within easy walking distance to the local neighborhood. The front porch of his small house, shown on the previous page, appears just to the right of the meat market. George Menzen worked at the market for BJ when this picture was taken.

The timber and plank structure in front of the store was the sidewalk of the early 1900’s. it was elevated enough to avoid the high rains and tides during the winters. These wood walkways were used until the 1930’s, when the WPA workers, during the great economic depression, installed concrete sidewalks.

The automobile in the front of the store was a new 1913 Ford Model-T which cost \$750. BJ always wanted and seemed to have the latest model automobiles. BJ let me steer this Model-T years later when I was in grammar school. To the right of the Model-T is a horse drawn delivery truck.

**My father Floyd Omar Dunn::**

My father played end receiver on the football squad when he attended Hoquiam High School. The big sporting event of the year was the annual Hoquiam and Aberdeen Thanksgiving Day football game. Even people who did not particularly care for the game would attend the annual event. The 1916 Thanksgiving game was the big one for my father. The Hoquiam team defeated Aberdeen three to nothing on a field goal by Earl Brown. Hostilities grew so heated that Hoquiam pastor, Rev. John W. Beard squared off with Aberdeen insurance man, Goodbar Jones. Below are 1916 pictures of my father and the Hoquiam High School football team. The lower picture is presently on display at the Arnold Polson Museum in Hoquiam.



## **The War to end all Wars:**

The “war to end all Wars,” was actually a slogan for a battlefield that stretched across most of Europe and parts of Africa from the years 1914 to 1918. It was the most deadly war in history that caused the deaths of eight million men. The war has been classified as the first industrialized war in the history of the world. The weapons of choice included fighter aircraft, tanks, heavy munitions, hand grenades and high-powered rifles. The war eventually became known as the First World War after the advent of the Second World War.

There were territorial and economic rivalries that the Germans had with the French, Great Britain, Russia and Austria-Hungary, which eventually precipitated into the start of the war. Austria-Hungary was a dual monarchy that consisted of multiple ethnic nationalities.

The war was instigated when Germany attacked Russia and France in August 1914. The British, Serbia, Belgium and Russia, who were allies of France, soon entered the war against Germany. Austria-Hungary and the Ottoman Empire became allies with Germany. Most of the main battlefields remained within the central European nations.

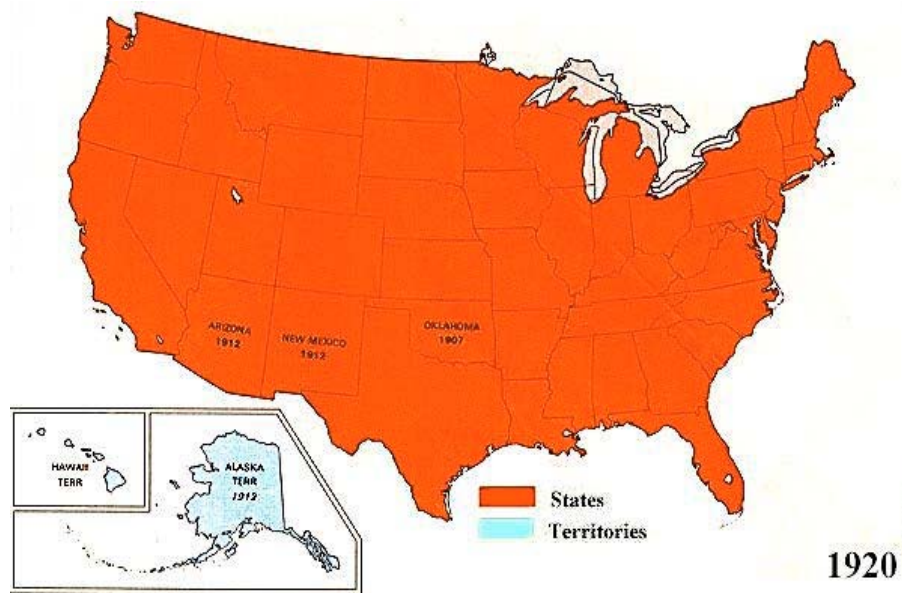
It is no wonder that people called this entanglement “the war to end all wars.” There is a wealth of information about the war on the Internet. Much of the war became stalemated when defensive “trench warfare” became a method that stalled progress for either side of the conflict. Both sides became exhausted over time.

The United States entered the war on April 6, 1917. There had been much opposition from the home front that initially prevented the United States from entering the war. However, the sinking of the ocean liner, “The Lusitania”, by a German U-boat in 1915, created such a public outrage that eventually culminated in the United States sending troops to help fight the war in Europe. The Germans had also announced that they would have unrestricted submarine warfare in an effort to destroy British control of the seas.

My father signed up, along with three other young men, at the draft board in Hoquiam so that they could join the Army and fight for their country in Europe. My grandfather, BJ, went down to the draft board and said that my father had lied about his age. My Dad was not old enough to join the Army. My Aunt Elizabeth said that two of the other young men never came back at the end of the war.

German morale and resources eventually became exhausted, and a revolution within the German fatherland created a basis for peace negotiations. The negotiations created harsh economic sanctions on the German government. These sanctions pushed Germany into years of economic depression. The sanctions eventually created an environment for a little known man, who had been a corporal during the First World War to become Chancellor of Germany. His name was Adolph Hitler.

# U. S. TERRITORIAL MAP



### **More sorrow for my grandparents:**

In 1921 my Aunt Elizabeth contracted tuberculosis. My grandparents were devastated with the dire prospects that TB can cause. My grandfather had already lived through so much grief with the dreaded disease plaguing his early family members. Fortunately, by 1921 there were new therapies that had proven to be beneficial in resisting the disease.

My grandparents took Elizabeth to a clinic and sanitarium in Portland, Oregon that used a technique where the infected lung was collapsed and allowed to rest and recuperate for a period of time until it could again resist the infectious bacillus. She was also given a special diet and plenty of rest in order to build up her immunity to the disease. Elizabeth's good health returned and the disease became permanently checked.

BJ decided that it would be best if his family moved to Portland in order to be with Elizabeth during her convalescence. He sold the store and the family moved to Portland. BJ worked for a time as a butcher at a local meat market and grocery store. He later opened up his own grocery store in Portland. The store was short lived due to limited parking space. In the meantime, my father was working as a butcher at a local public market in Portland.

The following is an episode that occurred that had a great impact on my life and my descendant's lives. This is a story that my mother told me many years ago. My father was on his way home from work and waiting at a bus stop. A man came along in an automobile and asked him if he would like a lift. In those days the offer would have been taken as a courteous gesture. Today the offer might be taken another way. The man who gave my father a lift was a Mr. Al McKeen, who would later become, along with his future wife Blanch Ward, one of my parent's best friends.

Along the way home Al asked my father if he would be interested in meeting his girlfriend's roommate, Alta. Fortunately for me, and my descendants, my father said yes and he liked what he saw. My parents were married on January 22, 1923 at the Sunnyside Congregational Church in Portland. Thank you Al for the nice gesture.

The lumber industry was booming during the 1920's. The camps and mills had advanced their production capacity to a point where every year hundreds of seagoing vessels would load up with cut lumber and deliver to a multitude of global markets. Shipbuilding had also become a large industry in Grays Harbor. The mill worker was bringing home a large paycheck and many were working an eight-hour day.

It was during the year of 1923 that BJ and my father became partners and opened a new grocery store and meat market on Simson street in Hoquiam. The market would eventually become one of the most popular and busy grocery stores in town. The store was called "Dunn's Market" and it was to become BJ's final great success.

### **Excessive Exuberance:**

The greatest economic decline in the American industrial economy occurred in 1929. It initially started when a catastrophic collapse of the United States stock market occurred in October 1929. Thousands of individual investors were ruined financially from the affects of the crash. As many as eleven thousand of the 25,000 banks in the country became insolvent. Masses of people were clamoring to remove their money out of the banks. Consumer spending was reduced to necessary food and housing needs, resulting in a drop of fifty percent of manufacturing production.

The depression was mainly due to excessive exuberance on the part of the investing public. There was a speculative boom euphoria that had lasted though the early 1920's. Everyone wanted to be rich. There was initially little government intervention to correct the problem.

Many people, who had been well off financially, had to resort to selling apples on the street. I remember seeing a man in Seattle, during the late 1930's, selling pictures of people on the street. Thousands of farmers and local businessmen were forced to file for bankruptcy. Soup lines became a common sight in the cities. Conditions deteriorated to such a degree that despair became the major news items of the day. One-half of the total population in the United States was financially poor.

The depression created political problems for the Republican Party that was in power at the time. As a result, the Democratic candidate, Franklin Roosevelt became president in 1933. Roosevelt implemented work programs for young males that helped improve infrastructure within communities throughout the country. I remember when many of the wood sidewalks in town were replaced with concrete sidewalks. The workers were part of the government's "Works Progress Administration." Or more popularly known as the "WPA." The WPA put millions of young men to work throughout the nation.

Most economists believed that the economy did not really recuperate fully, until the advent of the Second World War. Many believed that the depression, which extended on in Germany from the First World War, helped bring the rise of the Nazi regime under the leadership of Adolf Hitler. There were dramatic improvements in Germany, when unemployment became essentially eradicated. This was mainly due to the rapid rise of the manufacturing of armaments.

The economic depression caused the lumber industry in Grays Harbor County to bottom out throughout the 1930's. Nine major mills had to close down their production. The tremendous rise of the Grays Harbor lumber industry of the 1920's had finally peaked and was slowly dying down from its dynamic historical past.

There was a psychological affect on many of the workers during the great depression. Many felt as though they should have been more diligent and productive in preventing its occurrence. This was the work ethic and character of the people in those times.

## **Nothing Lasts Forever:**

Many people initially felt that the lumber business in the Pacific Northwest would last at least one hundred years. It actually only lasted somewhat less than fifty years. Some people even noticed the start of the decline as early as the 1920's. Most of the large lumber companies closed their doors at the end of World War Two. The giant Douglas fir trees that had been growing for centuries were mostly all cut down.

Early environmentalists were able to save some of the trees for future generations to enjoy. Most of these saved trees are adjacent to highways. They are there for the public to admire and enjoy without realizing the remaining burnt rotted stumps of the former trees are but just beyond the viewpoint of the traveling tourist view. However, there has been new growth of trees that have been planted to replace much of the old cut land. These trees have been developing quite fast over the past several years.

The economy of the local towns in Grays Harbor has been in decline ever since the end of World War Two. The town has remained somewhat self sufficient due to local community economics. Most of the old homes that were built back in the early 1900's are still standing. Many of these homes are quite attractive due to their upkeep and improvements. Everyone in town is well aware that the boom times of the past are gone.

A Wherhouser Plywood Plant just recently closed its doors in 2006. The only mill left in Grays Harbor, is the Hoquiam Paper and Pulp mill. Logging of small logs is still occurring. Most of these logs are chipped into small particles and blown into the hulls of large ships. The chips are then shipped off to foreign countries where they are generally used for producing wood wallboard. Some of the logs are also used for telephone and power posts.

The two towns have lost their rough edges of the past. Gone are the bars and gambling tables. The "girls of the night" are gone. My brother Bill once told me, when he was in the Army during the Korean War, that he noticed the towns of Aberdeen and Hoquiam were in the "off limits list of towns" to uniformed members of the armed forces.

My parents were good friends of the McChecrans. Frank McChecran owned the "Hoquiam Electric Company" in town. Frank's wife, Florence, once told him that he must let one of his workers fix the electric problems in the bawdyhouses. She didn't want anyone in town seeing Frank entering one of those houses.

I do remember going into a restaurant where the men would have breakfast or lunch at the dining bar which was just next to the beer bar. Behind those seated were round tables, where men would gamble with cards. There were also gambling machines in the restaurant. I don't ever remember seeing any women in these places. The only nice restaurant in town was at the Hoquiam Hotel.

### **The President comes to town:**

It was probably just another day for me on October 1, 1937. I was just five years old at the time. I have no recollection as to why I was at my father's store downtown on that day. But I do have total recollection of my father lifting me up onto his shoulders and racing down to the corner of Simpson Avenue and Seventh Street where an enormous amount of people had gathered. A motorcade came along and stopped at the midsection of the two streets. The local police were everywhere.

There was an older fancy sedan that everyone had gathered about that was the focal point of every one's attention. The front side door opened and out came the president of the United States, Franklin Delano Roosevelt. I knew exactly who he was since my immediate family was always terribly unhappy each time he was elected. Four times that is. I used to listen intensely at the dinner table about how he was going to destroy our country. I became totally engrossed in believing my family's attitude towards the Democrats. The Republicans were the good guys and the Democrats were the bad guys.

It is interesting how some visions of the past stick with a person for a lifetime. It appeared to me that there was nothing out of the ordinary when he got out of the car and greeted the people. It was many years later that the public learned that he was crippled due to having polio during his young adult years. He learned how to stand up, using his leg braces and a support to hold onto, without looking like a cripple who needed assistance. He was able to hide his disability for many years. The news media always cooperated with him in not photographing his disability. That would probably not be the case in today's day and age.

The working class men of the two towns were heavily in favor of the Democrat Party. They also made up a large majority within the community, due to the power of the various trade unions within Grays Harbor. It was the trade unions that were able to barter for higher wages with the lumber companies.

Those higher wages most likely allowed my father and grandfather to increase their prices at the grocery store and provide them with higher incomes. This would be somewhat like trickle down economics. All of the clerks in Dunns Market were union members. Even my father and grandfather joined the union in order to help keep with the good graces of the union members.

My Aunt Bertha was married to Fred McCready, who was the president of the Donavan Lumber Company. In later years he became a representative for some of the lumber companies when they negotiated with the labor unions. He once told me about negotiating with Jimmy Hoffa. Hoffa was the leader of the teamsters union and a notorious bully that had alliances with the Mafia. Jimmy Hoffa had a way of walking into the negotiation room with several thugs. This was his method of intimidating the lumber company negotiators. Hoffa was murdered many years later by unknown persons.

## **Early Recollections:**

My early recollection of the town of Hoquiam, were through the eyes of a young boy. I believe that most young children initially view most situations as an experience without making any serious judgments about why they are doing what they are doing. It is only as we get older that we make judgments, which sometimes lead to our dismay.

My first grade teacher was Miss Ellensburg. Most of us usually remember our first grade teacher. It was several years ago that they tore my old school building down and built a new one. Miss Ellensburg and my second grade teacher, Miss Davis were at the site when the demolition of the school occurred.

My brother Bill and I often wore raincoats and galoshes when we walked to school. It was not uncommon to have close to ninety inches of rain each year in the Grays Harbor area.

There were quite a few vacant seats in the classrooms. This was probably due to two situations. The birth rate during the great depression dropped significantly due to the lowering of family financial assets. Also, the dying lumber business had caused an exodus of many families from the community.

I do remember a cute oriental girl in my class, who was also a neighbor of ours. I believe her father was a businessman from Japan. The family moved back to Japan about one year prior to the attack on Pearl harbor. A lucky move for the family.

I did not realize, at the time, the great impact that the economic depression had on the population at large. There were a few times when a tramp would come to the back door to ask for food in return for a little labor. My mother would usually have them chop some wood in the back driveway and then give them a sandwich to eat on the back steps. We all ate simple meals, even though my father owned a grocery store. Actually, simple home-prepared meals were more of the standard in those days, regardless that the economy was in such a slump.

Few of our neighbors had their property fenced in. There never seemed to be such a need for people to cling for privacy or any fear of having their homes broken into. I never remember my parents locking the doors of our house when we were leaving for a short period of time. The kids in the neighborhood were always free to go down by the bay and fly kites or carouse without any adult supervision. Also, it was never a man who would want to be taken to the local jail. The jailers were not courteous people in those days.

Life changed when I entered Jr. High School. Classes were larger and student conduct was more unruly. The typical sport at lunchtime was to watch the fights in front of the schoolyard. The town of Hoquiam had its rough edges, and civility in the community definitely needed improvement.

### **When those whistles blew:**

I always knew that I was living in a mill town when shrills of the sawmill's resonating whistles announced that it was time to prepare for the day's activities. The sounds had a melody of their own that could never be forgotten. The first whistle was a warning that occurred at seven o'clock. The mill hand knew that he had only one hour to get to his work place. The eight o'clock whistles announced that it was time to commence the workday. The first whistle was time for my brother Bill and I to quickly have breakfast and traipse off to school.

I remember that there was a great deal of activity in the towns of Hoquiam and Aberdeen during the latter 1930's. It appeared to me, at the time, that many people were shopping at my father's store and there were plenty of people browsing in the downtown stores. However, my viewpoint was not the reality of the times. The exporting of lumber to the east, mainly Japan, had dwindled and many sawmills had shut down. The population of Grays Harbor was down by thirteen percent and approximately a third of the loggers and mill workers were unemployed. My conception of a busy downtown was no comparison of how it had been during the 1920's.

It would seem that a mill worker would be happy to have a job during those turbulent times. It didn't seem like a time for lumber workers to go out on strike for higher wages. It turned out that the 1930's were the turbulent years for the rise of industrial unions. President Roosevelt set the stage for the industrial unions when he signed the "National Industrial Recovery Act." The new law allowed for collective bargaining for wages between the unions and management.

There was tremendous turmoil in the harbor when union members commenced to strike their employers for higher wages. There were times when state troopers were called in to control the turbulence of union member strikes against the lumber companies. There were even occurrences when teargas was used to quell union alterations.

Two major marches occurred in July 1935, when union members and their families marched from Aberdeen to Hoquiam, and back, to rally support for bargaining efforts and higher wages. There were at least six thousand people that participated in the two marches to demonstrate their demands for higher wages. The parade was estimated to be up to thirteen blocks long.

The average wage before the strikes was 58 cents per hour. These wages were much below the rate of pay prior to the advent of the great depression. However, the price of lumber had also fallen from the catastrophic results of the Great Depression. Both sides were at loggerheads. This was the beginning of the labor union's influence that would last throughout most of the twentieth century. It also brought about the rise of the middle class American family that provided the high living standards that many families enjoy in today's society.

## Dunn's Market:



This is my father standing behind the meat market counter at Dunn's Market. I believe that this picture may have been taken sometime during the 1920's. The canned goods were stacked in the shelves behind the meat counter. The store was expanded later on to the other side of the meat market, where groceries were made available. The front counter displays bacon at twenty-eight cent a pound and picnic hams at sixteen and one-half cents a pound.

This is part of the store that I remember when I was a child. The first paying job I ever had was when I cleaned out behind the meat counter for one of my father's butchers, Bryan. Slaughtered steer were brought in at the back of the store where they were butchered in the back room. Chickens were killed in the back of the store and feathered in a large hot tub. Dill pickles and sauerkraut were aged in large wooden barrels. Wooden locked containers were located inside a large frozen locker room and rented out to customers for storing frozen food. This was your early day frozen food locker. All produce was displayed in open wood boxes. Customers were allowed to carry a line of credit with the store until payday. Dunn's market was a typical grocery store and meat market during the 1930's and early 1940's.

My father would always try to beat the opposition from the competitive food stores in town. There was a Safeway store across the street and Swanson's food store a few doors down the street. If they put out a sign for apples at fifteen cents a pound, then my father would put out a sign for apples at ten cents a pound. He was very competitive.

## **A Day of Infamy:**

“Yesterday, December 7, 1941, a date which will live in infamy, the United States of America was suddenly, and deliberately, attacked by naval air forces of the Empire of Japan.”

Those immortal words by President Roosevelt were resonating throughout the day when Pearl Harbor was invaded. I was ten years old at the time and was somewhat aware of what war implied. I know today that I did not appreciate the potential danger that my parents felt. There was imminent danger at the thought that we might be attacked at the western coastal shores.

My father immediately covered all of our windows with tarpaper and placed a large sand pail in the attic in order to extinguish any Japanese incendiary bombs. Local wardens were assigned to all of the neighborhoods in town. Paperboys would call out the news every evening, so that local residents could purchase the latest news about the war. One of my father's butchers, Bryan, was soon drafted into the Army. One of the grocery boys was also drafted. He was killed during battle in the south pacific.

My recollections of World War Two are mostly from the observations through the eyes and mind of a young boy. I remember P38 fighter planes and naval SNJ airplanes flying close to our chimney top. Bill and I would collect tinfoil and rubber tire tubes and take them to school to be used for basic materials in the war effort against the enemy.

Strict rationing was implemented on many items, such as gasoline, oil and even some food items such as butter and sugar. Speed limits, of thirty miles per hour, were required on all roads and highways. Imagine driving a modern freeway today at thirty miles per hour.

One of my favorite hobbies at the time was the collection of newsreels that I could purchase at a local photography store. These sixteen-millimeter newsreels were generally available throughout the war. I was able to show the films on a movie projector that my parents gave to my brother and I for our birthday. I enjoyed watching the large battleship guns blast off against the enemy.

There were many popular Hollywood stars that traveled the country in order to bring in money for the war effort. People would purchase war bonds in order to see the shows. Bill and I were able to see some of these performers throughout the war.

One experience still lingers in my memory. I was traveling on a train where there were lots of GI's aboard at the time. A young pretty girl came cuddling up to me and started a conversation. It occurred to me that she was trying to keep away from those young GI's that were trying to make her acquaintance. I was in my glory when I realized that she was under my protection. The GI's probably believed that she was with her younger brother.

### **My father's passing & a change of life for my family:**

I believe that it was during the early 1940's, when my family made a trip to Soap Lake, which is on the eastern side of Washington State. It was later on that I found out that the purpose of the trip was intended to help get my father's health back to normal. I remember to this day that he was having a bad time. My mother probably felt that he might improve with the warmer dry air. My father was eventually diagnosed as having contracted Leukemia. A total cure for Leukemia has never been discovered to the present time.

My brother and I spent some time at my Grandparent's home until my father passed away in July 25, 1942. My Dad was only forty-two years old at the time. I remember to this day what terrible grief was felt in my family over the passing of my father.

My grandfather and my mother eventually sold the grocery store.

My mother soon decided to leave the rainy Grays Harbor area and move to sunny California. I remember heading south in our car on highway 101 with no definite destination in mind. We eventually stayed at Santa Barbara, California for a while in order to check out the town. We were sitting in the lobby of our hotel when my mother asked Bill and I if we would like to stay and live in the Santa Barbara. Bill and I had already checked out the beaches and some of the town. The vote was a unanimous yes.

We initially lived in a rental home where the local neighborhood was ethnically diverse. Joe Lewis, the heavyweight boxing champion at one time, was in the front of our house, looking for one of our neighbors. The junior high school that Bill and I went to had students from various ethnic backgrounds. Santa Barbara High School was also quite ethnically diversified. The town of Santa Barbara has a history of multi-ethnic population. My mother eventually purchased a house, near the downtown area.

VJ day 'victory in Japan', August 15, 1945, was a very big day in Santa Barbara. We needed to celebrate after the announcement on the radio told that an armistice had been made between the Japanese and the United States. We all jumped into the car and went downtown to State Street and joined the parade of honking cars.

Our country after the Second World War was the most powerful nation in modern history. The US dollar was used as the universal exchange money between world governments. The newly produced Oil from Saudi Arabia was sold to other countries using the American dollar. Large numbers of Americans visited other counties when the American dollar was strong. A slogan became popular in some foreign counties, called "the ugly American." Many of these countries had been destroyed by the war, and some people were resentful of the big spenders from America. The strong American dollar provided the resources and vitality that created the historical tremendous economic growth that prevailed for many years after the war.

## **My Brother Bill:**

My brother Bill and I have the same yearly birthday, December 4. Bill was born in 1929, two years before I entered this world. We usually played and got along well with each other, however, there were a few times when tempers flared and we locked horns together. I always felt that Bill was more studious than I was inclined to be. He seemed to know where he was going early in life while I was just moving along at a more leisurely pace.

Bill and I joined a Boy Scout troop soon after our move to Santa Barbara. Bill became the troop Junior Assistant Scout Master and joined a special scout group called “The order of the Arrow”.

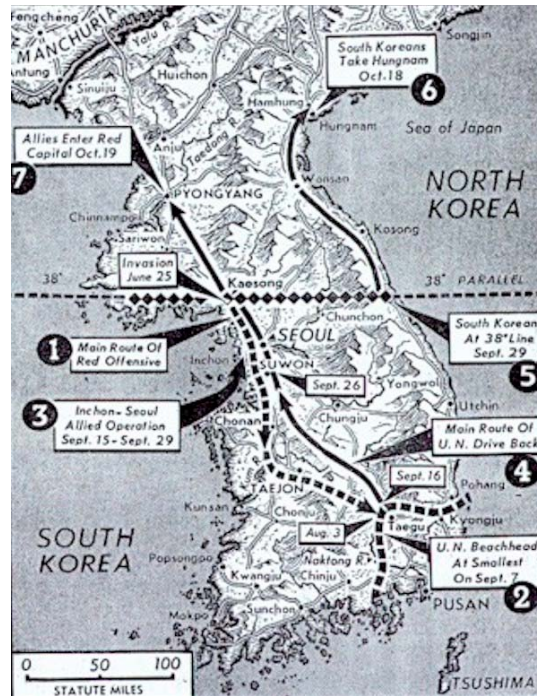
After graduating from high school in 1948, Bill attended three years of college at the University of California in Santa Barbara, where he majored in Economics and Political Science. He joined the Sigma Phi Epsilon Fraternity and also became an active member in Republican Politics. During the 1950 U.S. Senate race in California, Bill was invited to sit with Richard Nixon at a local restaurant. Bill was always a true conservative advocate of the Republican Party. Bill’s education was delayed when he was drafted into the Army during the Korean War. He first attended finance school and then was sent to Korea where he worked as a payroll clerk with the Third Infantry Division. He had a total enlistment time of two years in the Army.

After his discharge from the Army he moved to Los Angeles, California where he found employment and attended night school. He later graduated from California State University with a degree in economics and was also successful in passing his CPA examination in 1960. While living in Los Angeles, Bill met Patricia Hogan, who was visiting from Waterbury Connecticut. They were married in 1959 at Los Angeles. Two of their children were born in Los Angeles, Brian (b. 12/18/60) and Carol (b. 2/19/62).

After graduation, Bill landed a job at the Arthur Andersen Co. in Los Angeles. He later transferred to the company’s San Diego office, where they purchased their first home and where two other children were born, Stephen (b. 10/21/64) and Barbara (b. 2/28/68). Bill later started a successful CPA practice in San Diego. He eventually decided to close up his office and head back to his original roots, back to Grays Harbor, Washington.

Bill obtained an accounting position at the Bayview Lumber Company in Aberdeen. The accounting practices were not in very good condition when Bill started to work at Bayview. Within two years their cash flow problems were in much better condition. Bill eventually became a full partner with the company. Bill and Pat moved to Olympia during his retirement years. They traveled to many parts of the world and were able to enjoy many happy years with their children and grandchildren. Bill died during the morning of March 22, 2002 at the Saint Peter Hospital in Olympia, Washington.

## The Korean War:



The Korean War started in June of nineteen fifty. It was essentially a civil war between the northern half, and the southern half of the country. China, along with limited support by the Soviet Union, supported the northern providence. The United States, along with the United Nations, supported the southern part of the country. The United States always referred to the war as a “police action.” Neither side wanted to commit to a “declaration of war.” North Korea is still a festering problem today, with its recent development of an atomic bomb.

The Korean War really set the stage for what was referred to as the “Cold War.” There was never a winning side. General Eisenhower promised to bring the Korean War to an end, if he were elected president of the United States. He won the election by a landslide. Eisenhower made a secret trip to Korea and was able to revive the peace negotiations. A peacekeeping armistice was signed in July 1953.

There were 33,741 American’s in uniform that died in battle during the Korean War. One of my close friends, Jim Trigs, joined the Army just prior to the war. Jim was killed in an ambush during the very early days of the conflict.

My mother had a friend over one day that was from Hoquiam. He was an officer in the local Santa Barbara 40<sup>th</sup> division Home Guard. He gave me a pep talk about joining the guard. I told him that I had already joined the Naval Reserve. The 40<sup>th</sup> division was one of the first Army units to be sent over to Korea. Many guard members never came back from the war.

## **My Times:**

It was never my intention to write an autobiography of my life and times in this book. I will just provide a snapshot of "My Times." I really intend to tell mostly about what I saw and a way of life during those years.

In 1949, I graduated from Santa Barbara High School. I was now on my own for the first time in my life, almost. I was still living at home with my mother. But where and what was my future going to be? I didn't have a clue and even worse, I didn't even think much about it. So I worked for a time at a gas station, delivered flowers for a florist and attended Jr. College for one semester. All of my jobs paid minimum wages, seventy cents per hour. So what happened to change my course in life? I had previously joined the US naval reserve in order to acquire some extra spending money. My life changed drastically in June of 1950, when the Korean War happened. I was eventually called to active duty.

I had purchased, along with a friend of mine, an old sailboat, which we kept at the West Beach Marina at Santa Barbara. To this day, I remember standing on that boat on July 4, 1951, the day prior to going on active duty with the Navy, and knowing that "now it was going to be an end to a way of life for me."

I served all of my active duty at the Los Alamitos Naval Air Station near Long Beach California. It was during that time that I met and married Joyce Annette Sharpe. Our first son, Roger, was born on February 24, 1954 at the US Naval hospital at Corona, California. I believe that the total cost for expenses of the delivery of Roger at the Naval Hospital was approximately 12 dollars. Joyce and I received much of his baby clothing from hand made articles that some women had donated.

When I was in the Navy the regular enlisted men would often say, "don't go out there, times are not good on the outside." It was almost like a slogan for them. But I was never inclined to want to sign up for four more years in the Navy. I entered, what the navy men called, "the outside world" when there was an economic recession. It was referred to as "the Eisenhower recession." Poor Ike, he didn't deserve that slogan.

It was during that period of time that I had to make some serious plans as to how I was going to support my new family and myself. The depression, and with little experience, did not bode well for finding a good job. However, I did find a job for a short time working at a manufacturing company at Burbank, California for minimum wages. We were able to purchase all of the furniture we needed for an apartment we rented in North Hollywood for about \$200. The apartment rented for fifty dollars a month. Much of that furniture lasted until the boys were about through their teen years. What a bargain. North Hollywood, in those days, was a wonderful place to live. The neighborhoods had new homes and modern apartments. You could drive down to Hollywood in about half an hour. I have heard recently that the town has turned pretty much into a ghetto.

I eventually decided that I had better take action and find a way to provide for a better way of life for my family. I attended Jr. College at Van Nuys for one semester and eventually completed college at the California Polytechnic State College at San Luis Obispo, where I received a B.S. degree in mechanical engineering. Joyce received a PHT degree from Julian McFee, the college dean. P.H.T, meaning, “pushing hubby through.”

It was just my bad luck to graduate when there was another economic recession. But I did luck out when I obtained a job at the Raytheon Corporation at Santa Barbara. I later decided that it would be beneficial to move to the Santa Clara Valley where engineering jobs were more available. I first worked at the Stanford Linear Accelerator in Palo Alto for several years. I later worked for several other companies in the valley over the years until my retirement in 1999.

The name “Silicon Valley” was not used as a slogan during those early days in the valley. It was later on that companies, like Fairchild, Intel and others, were producing silicon chips.

There were economic ups and downs during those years in the valley. I believe that an engineer working in those days had to have “cool nerves, good timing and a working wife.” However, those economic slumps usually did not last very long. Jobs usually became more plentiful as the business in the valley began to expand.

It was a terrible shock to me when my mother, Alta, died at Santa Barbara on May 1968. She was seventy-three years old at the time of her death. I will always remember her wonderful spirits when I last visited her in the Cottage Hospital at Santa Barbara. She did not appear to have any anxiety about her future. My mother died just a few days later. I do know that she had a great faith for a new life beyond this one. She had studied religious history for many years and evidently found great comfort in her spiritual beliefs. My mother had a very full and exciting life. She lived through two world wars, survived the great depression and became quite successful in becoming financially independent. My mother was a very self-reliant person. I always knew when mother knew best.

It was during the late 1960's that Joyce and I separated and were eventually divorced in early 1970's. Joyce later married Michael Rathbone. They are both now retired and living near my son, Jeffrey, at Las Vegas, Nevada.

It was about a year after my divorce that I met Donna Marshall at a dance at the Adobe Creek Lodge in Los Altos Hills. It was one of those whirlwind romances, when we were soon married. Donna was a Kindergarten teacher for many years in San Jose. Donna has a daughter, Lynne, and a Son, Steven, from a previous marriage. This coming June 2007, will be our thirty-seventh anniversary. We are presently living at Minden, Nevada. There is a beautiful view of the Sierra Nevada Mountains from our front door, and Lake Tahoe is just a short drive away.

### **Gazing into my crystal ball:**

There was an old melody that went like this, “the future is not for ours to see.” However, I will gaze into my crystal ball and give it my best guess related to an unknown future.

There is no doubt that the world economies are continually changing over time. History is full of successes and failures of governments in the past. The history of our country has been a continual event of strife and change. And our country is just a little over two hundred years old. There is no such thing as “nirvana” in this world. So here is my best guess about how our country will continually change, as we are just entering into the very early years of the two thousand-millennium.

There is no denying that we are entering into a global economy. China’s rising economy is fast outpacing any other country in the world. Probably most of the products that we purchase today are made in China. Japan was the rising economy of the 1970’s. Their early production of automobiles, in those days, were ridiculed at the time. The Japanese automobiles are now outselling our American automobile companies. It now appears that China is on the road of duplicating what Japan was able to accomplish over thirty years ago.

The outsourcing of jobs will continue to be a problem for our country. I worked at a small company, in the late 1900’s, where some Chinese engineers were imported to design some of the products. Most of these Chinese engineers spoke quite good English. I also worked with some engineers from India, who spoke the English language with a little bit of dialect. There were also many engineers that came from Russia during the 1970’s. The Russian government deported thousands of Jewish people during that period of time. There was also a salesman who wanted to contract some of our work to unemployed engineers in Russia. I didn’t care for the idea at the time.

Many engineers from other countries received their college degrees from our universities. There were engineering students from other countries that graduated with me when I attended college. Many of our American jobs are now being outsourced to people in other countries that obtained their education in the United States. The working people in other countries, today, are going to continue to work for low competitive wages in comparison to the average American worker.

I believe that businesses and monetary investments will continue to flow overseas. Any government interference will only delay the inevitable. It appears that our country is continually becoming a service economy. Wages over time will most likely become adjusted, and balanced out, in relation to other countries. The future will require intelligent leadership in order to circumvent the economic problems that lie ahead.

An American unified government of countries, similar to the European Government, may become a reality in the future. This would seem like a very bad idea in today’s environment. However, governments and economics do change over time.

Outsourcing in the United States is not a new phenomenon. The early garment industry originally started in the northeastern states during the early 1800's. The garment industry thrived in the northeast for over one hundred years. The slowness of the southern states to grow economically was mainly due to the aftermath of the Civil War. The struggle for equal rights of the black population was also an impediment for economic growth in the south.

The economy in the southern states changed rapidly during the 1960's when most all of the garment industry migrated to the south for cheaper labor. Other industries also established factories in the south. The industrial movement to the south was always due to lower wages. The industrial unions were never able to attain much of a presence in the southern states. The economies in the northeastern states have had a devastating time during the last several years. There are many old bordered up brick buildings in the northeastern states today that may never again become occupied. A movement of jobs from the south has recently occurred. Some jobs have gone to Mexico for their cheap labor. And some jobs have even left from Mexico to China.

It appears that there are now some corporations that are outsourcing themselves in preparation for future international operations. The Cayman Islands have become a refuge for many American companies that wish to do business with overseas countries. The Cayman Islands are located in the Caribbean Sea, just off the coast of Florida. The islands are a tax-free haven for large corporations that desire to do business overseas.

Most of the economic changes that I have described have been taking place for many years. This slowness of change is most probably why the news media does not pay much attention to it. Some recent investment talk shows have even advised people to invest in overseas companies. Again, when conditions go slowly, there will probably be little information available to the public that could have a tremendous affect on millions of people's lives.

The movement, of our ancestors, from the East to the West Coast covered less than one hundred years. Our ancestors probably did not think too much about what would occur many years into their future. Most had high expectations about their immediate future plans as they traveled westward in their Conestoga wagons across the plains.

It would be interesting to travel in a time machine and observe what has happened by the year 2100. My crystal ball does not look that far into the future. Most people in the future will be just like our ancestors. Plan for the immediate future just as you see it. That is pretty much what I did. We, as individuals, have little control over the long-term destiny of our country. Keeping informed and voting for the best person of our choosing is what we must all do. It is also important to keep a vigilant eye on the global garden that we live in. President Washington once said, in his fair well speech about our democracy, "If you ever lose it, you will have only yourselves to blame."

**My great grandparents:**



The picture of Benjamin Hanna Dunn was probably taken during the middle 1880's. This picture of Benjamin's wife, Mary, may have been taken during the late 1890's. Mary died in 1941 at the age of 95 years. She lived about fifty years after Benjamin's death in September 20, 1891.

**My grandparents and their children:**



This is a picture of my grandfather, Benjamin Joseph, “ BJ “, my grandmother Lena Theresa, my father, Floyd Omar and my aunt Bertha Mae. I would guess that this picture was taken about 1908.

**My father and his sisters:**



I would guess that this picture, of my father and my aunts Bertha and Elizabeth, was taken about the year 1923. This is a very fine picture of my grandparent's children during their prime of life.

Photo 03

**My father and mother:**



These are my favorite pictures of my father and mother. The pictures were probably taken soon after their marriage in 1923. The reverend J.J. Straub officiated at their wedding in the manse of the Sunnyside Congregational Church in Portland, Oregon. My parents went on a honeymoon along the Puget Sound area in Washington, and later made their home at 2501 Cherry Steet in Hoquiam.

## **THE SEARCH FOR JAMES DUNN:**

There is always a final chapter when family research can no longer go further back into history, where distant family names finally drift off into past. So it is with James Dunn.

Several Dunn families have entered the name of James Dunn, father of William Dunn, in the “Family History Resource Files”, which are published by the church of the Mormon Latter Day Saints. Their genealogy files are one of the largest in the world.

Genealogy is an important aspect of the Mormons, in that they follow the practice of baptism for the dead. A living person, who is baptized, can act as a proxy in behalf of a deceased person. They believe that baptism is a requirement for the entry into the Kingdom of God.

There are presently twenty-eight listings from various people who identify James Dunn as being born in the town of Mansfield, Windham, Connecticut in 1680.

A few listings identify his marriage to a Mrs. James Dunn in the year 1710. However, I have not been able to retrieve any accurate historical records that could relate to the reliability of dates and locality of birth, marriage or death of James Dunn. There also appears to be a continuity of the information that many persons have entered into the LDS database.

I was able to contact only two people who said that they had copied information of dates and places from earlier entries. None of these people had any authentic original sources of information related to birth, marriage or time of death. Two men at the local Carson City LDS library said that some people do tend to copy earlier entries when providing historical dates of their past ancestors into the data base of the LDS family history resource files.

I have never been able to locate any original records about James Dunn that were entered back in time which might have provided the original source of information for the others to use.

The following is an analysis that I have made that may possibly provide a clue as to when James Dunn entered the colonies. The General Court of Connecticut issued a town charter to the town of Windham on the 12<sup>th</sup> of May 1692. The town of Mansfield was later formed from a section of Windham and incorporated in May of 1703. In other words, the towns of Mansfield or Windham were established after the year of 1680. James appears to have been born some twelve years before the township of Windham was chartered.

It appears that the LDS entries for the towns of Mansfield and Windham, were probably in reverse. In other words, the town of Mansfield was plotted after the town of Windham was established.

The town names of, Mansfield and Windham, reflected the presence of early English settlers due to their fond remembrances of their hometowns of Mansfield and Windham England. Generally, various common ethnic persons established all of the early settlements. This was a common occurrence, since they all spoke the same language.

However, there were people from Scotland that also planted homes in the town of Windham. The evidence for this was the settlement of a Isaac Magoon, who was admitted as an inhabitant of Windham in 1698. There were ecclesiastical differences between the Scottish and English settlers. These differences eventually led to a partition of Windham that developed into the town of Scotland in 1857.

There could have been some Scotch Irish people who migrated down from Massachusetts and settled into the town of Windham. They would have had a common bond with the Scottish settlers, since they spoke the same language.

However, there are some known facts. The Scotch-Irish families, aboard the five ships, arrived at Boston Harbor in August 4, 1718. The LDS records list that James Dunn was born in 1680. Records show that William Dunn was born in 1717. Therefore, James Dunn would have been about thirty-eight years old when the five ships arrived at Boston Harbor. William would have been but just one-year old at that same time.

The presence of Scottish settlers in Windham does present a possibility that a man from Northern Ireland, who also spoke his native Scottish language, could have had a presence in the early town of Windham.

There is a land transaction that was entered in "The Somers Deeds, page 2159", that is recorded in "TheHistory of Enfield." The entry states, "James MacCarter of Windsor Conn. to William Dunn of Mansfield Conn." This is the sole evidence that I have found that William Dunn was indeed from the town of Mansfield. This information may have been the source for the location of James Dunn in the LDS files.

The above information does show that James Dunn most probably did have a presence in the early plantation of Windham. The question is, did James Dunn arrive in the colonies during the Great Surge of five ships in 1680, or did he arrive at an earlier date. There were those Scotch-Irish people who traveled from New Jersey to Connecticut during the 1670's. It appears that we will never know how, and when James Dunn arrived in the Colonies.

There was also only one entry in the LDS Pedigree Resource files that mentions a James Dunn Sr. A James Dunn Sr. only adds to the mystery.

There is an interesting entry of the name “James Dunn” in the book “Scotch Irish Pioneers in Ulster and America” by Charles Knowles Bolton. This book is available for downloading on the Internet.

On page 156 there is an entry “DUNN, James, 1709” from the hometown of “Inniskillen.” The town of Inniskillen is within the central part of Ulster, Ireland.

Bolton mentions that “the records of the ministers of the Presbyterian Church in New England were not well preserved. However, the records of the Presbytery and Synod were kept with great care” The Synod were the delegates that discussed and made decisions about ecclesiastical affairs. Evidently the records of the leading church members of the community were of greater value than that of the ministers. There is some evidence that some men in the early Colonies did not take kindly when an overbearing minister attempted to rule the congregation. It is unfortunately that the colonial location of the men in Bolton’s book is not included.

Another source of historic information about a James Dunn can be found in the “Ulster Historical Foundation.” The foundation was established in 1956 and contains vast numbers of surnames and given names of 17<sup>th</sup> century Scotch-Irishmen in Ulster, Ireland. The Ulster Historical Foundation can be found on the Internet. (AncestryIreland.com). Then search in the “Online Database.”

I first looked up the surname “Dunn.” There were three records of “Scottish settlers in Ulster” during the 17<sup>th</sup> century records with the surname Dunn. There was also one person recorded as a Fasti of the Presbyterian Church. Then I looked up the surname “Dunn” along with the first name “James.” There were no listings of Scottish settlers in Ulster with the name “James Dunn”. However, there was one Fasti listed in the Presbyterian Church with the name James Dunn. The word Fasti, during the early Ulster communities, is a reference to a leading member of the clergy.

There is no reason to assume, or not to assume, that the James Dunn listed in the Ulster Historical Foundation is the same James Dunn listed in Bolton’s book. Or, that the person might even be the James Dunn Sr. that was listed in the LDS pedigree files. There were many Presbyterian clergy men who led their church members to the early Colonies. Also, if there was a James Dunn Sr., then it might be possible that the man mentioned in the Ulster Historical Foundation, could also be one and the same.

I realize that this discussion only raises a curiosity as to the reality of when and where James Dunn entered the Colonies during the late seventeenth century. This discussion is what most people would refer to as “a dead end.”

### **Recommended Reading:**

The Bloody Country, by James and Christopher Collier. This is a novel written in regard to the Wyoming massacre.

They Tried to Cut it All: by Edwin Van Syckle. This is a fascinating book about the early logging and lumber industry in Grays Harbor.

The River Pioneers, by Edwin Van Syckle. Another fascinating book about the early days of Grays Harbor.

Grays Harbor, by Robert A. Weinstein. A picture book related to the early days of Aberdeen and Hoquiam. This book is out of print, but can be purchased on the Internet or at the Hoquiam Museum. It's a little expensive.

The Scotch-Irish, A Social History, by James G. Leyburn. Leyburn's book is most likely the most informative history of the Scotch Irish.

Yankee Cavalrymen, by John W. Rowell. Rowell was the grandson of Cornelius Baker, an enlisted man in Company C, that had kept a diary of his experiences during the Battle of the Republic. A great detailed book about the Pennsylvania Cavalry during the Civil War.

The Old Mine Road, by C. G. Hine. An interesting dialog about Hine's experience, and a historical discussion, as he traveled along the ancient "Old Mine Road." This was the early road that many pioneers traveled down from Port Jervis, NY to Sussex County. This is the road that I believe may have been used when the Thomas Dunn family traveled from Connecticut to Sussex County.

West of Wichita, by Craig Miner. An interesting pictorial story of the early Kansas Territory. Lots of pictures and stories about the hardships of the early people in the high plains of Kansas.

Scotch-Irish Pioneers in Ulster and America, by Charles Knowles Bolton. This is an excellent book about the early Scotch Irish people in America. Bolton delves into great detail about the history and living conditions of the Scotch-Irish in the early colonies. .

I obtained all of my information related to Martin Luther on the Internet. There is a good DVD video that can be purchased on the Internet about the life of Martin Luther.

**All stories have an ending:**



I thought that I should end my Dunn story with a dignified outfit to wear, along with a picture of my beautiful wife, Donna. Our ancestors really dressed up in fine outfits when they went out on the town. The stern look on the man, with his happy wife at his side, was a typical picture of the times. This picture was taken in 2005, at the Columbia State Park, near Sonora, California. The town has been preserved to represent the California 49'r gold rush days. It is important that our historical past be preserved in order to provide an opportunity for future generations to observe the times in which our ancestors lived.

My Dunn family story has covered a little over three hundred years. The Reformation started close to five hundred years ago. Imagine five Uncle George's standing in front of us. The recent growth of modern society is just a pinpoint of time in history.

**FLOYD DUNN, 2007**

**THE END**