

ALEXANDER, THOMAS MATTHEW

U2

ALEXANDER, THOMAS MATTHEW

Born at _____, Indiana, June 1, 1822.

son of _____ RALPH _____ and _____

Married Catherine _____ SCOTT _____ in Illinois, about _____ 1849 (b. 12-28-1828
d. May, 1898)

Children, James, Henry, John,, _____ (Mrs. John Rees), Sarena E., (Mrs.
(Married, 10-16-73) (Elizabeth M.) (Ellen)
Edmund G. Peck), and Mary (Mrs. Alfred S. Clough _____)

Moved with his family from Illinois to Kansas about 1860; arrived
in Prescott from New Mexico September 17, 1864; elected as one of the
Directors of the Prescott and Mohave Road Company, December 14, 1864; an
article in the Arizona Miner of October 24, 1868, states that:

Mr. Alexander has one of the best ranches in Whipple Valley and
a decidedly fine crop of corn. He has lately built two additions to
his home and now has plenty of house-room for his large family.

The Miner of March 6, 1869, printed this item:

Rufus E. Farrington, of Granite Creek, informs us that on Monday
last, his neighbor, T.M. Alexander, finished the career of an eagle --
measuring over seven feet from tip to tip of its wings -- that was
prowling around his chicken yard, by putting a bullet through its head.
Mr. F. assures us that Aleck was about 300 yards from the bird when he
killed it.

Listed, U.S. Census, 1870, at Prescott, age 48, occupation -- Farmer;
was with Edmund G. Peck, C.C. Bean and William Cole when the Peck Mine was
discovered in the Bradshaw Mountains on June 16, 1875, and was one of the
"Big Four" who located it; the mine produced over \$1,000,000 in silver during
the next 10 years; he and H.A. Bigelow laid out the townsite on Turkey Creek
near the Peck Mine which became known as Alexandra.

The following is taken from an obituary printed in the Prescott
Journal-Miner of December 2, 1910:

He was among the first to bring cattle to this section, and in that
day experienced the usual burden to preserve his interests from Indian
depredations. As a citizen, in the long years that followed, he was re-
garded in the highest for his upright and honorable dealings with all.

As a builder he figured industriously and capably, and leaves a monument to his memory that will be hard to efface. It was the type of men of the nobility of Mr. Alexander that gave the country firm anchorage in any channel.

Mr. Alexander was one of the notable quartette that located the famous Peck mine in the Bradshaws in 1875, which was the entering wedge of the wonderful mineral resources apparent today. With his devotion to the country and his belief in its possibilities, fortune did not dim his vision, and he remained steadfast to enjoy the fruits of his years of privation among the hills of the country, that preceded his acquiring this bonanza property.

The closing of the earthly career of this splendid citizen and his prominent position among those who entered the Territory in the darkest days of its history, revived his past life in all of its upright and honorable dealings for nearly half a century.

Died at Mayer, Yavapai County, A. T., November 28, 1910, aged 88; buried, Masonic Cemetery in Prescott.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

- Ferish, T.E. - History of Arizona, Vol. 3, p. 211.
Barnes, W.C. - Arizona Place Names, p. 14.
Arizona Vital Statistics - Death Certificate No. 207.
The Arizona Miner, Prescott, December 14, 1864, p. 2, c. 4; October 24, 1868, p. 2, c. 1; January 9, p. 2, c. 2-3, March 6, 1869, p. 3, c. 1; November 9, 1872, p. 2, c. 2.
The Enterprise, Prescott, August 7, 1878, p. 2, c. 1.
The Courier, Prescott, March 1, 1882, p. 3, c. 3.
The Journal-Miner, Prescott, November 29, p. 8, c. 2, December 2, 1910, p. 5, c. 5 (obituary and funeral).
The Arizona Star, Tucson, December 1, 1910, p. 3 (death notice).