

02  
02

SCOTT, WILLIAM FISHER, born at Lanark, Lanarkshire, Scotland, August 28, 1831; son of George and Christina Scott; married Mrs. Larcena Ann (Pennington) Page (1837-1913), daughter of Elias G. and Julia A. (Hood) Pennington, at Tucson, A.T., July 27, 1870; children, William Bennington and Georgie (Mrs. Robert H. Forbes).

Came to the United States on a sailing ship that landed at New York City in 1845 and remained there with his older brother until 1855; then traveled west to Chicago and later to Council Bluffs and Omaha; went along with Federal troops of the Utah expedition which left the Missouri River in the fall of 1857, spent the winter in the Rocky Mountains and arrived in Salt Lake City in the spring of 1858 under the command of Colonel Albert Sidney Johnston; he moved on to California and first came to what is now Arizona, in 1859.

Was at Pinos Altos, New Mexico, during the gold excitement of 1860-61; at the time of his death the Tucson Arizona Star stated that;

At various times he carried on his enterprises under extreme hazard imposed by hostile Apaches against whom he participated in a number of encounters, notably the Cook's Canyon ambushade in 1861.

Late in 1862 he joined a party of about 40 well armed prospectors headed by Captain Joseph R. Walker and went with them down the Gila and to Tucson, thence to the Hassayampa River where placer gold was discovered in May, 1863; remained with the Walker party for about a year and then returned to Tucson where his name appears in the Territorial Census taken in April, 1864, resident in Arizona 5 years, occupation - Miner, property valued at \$75.

About 1865 he entered into partnership with James Lee and they began operating a water power flour mill at Silver Lake on the Santa Cruz River

about 1½ miles southwest of Tucson; they also developed the Naguila silver mine, in the Anole Mountains, 12 miles west of Tucson but in 1867 suffered depredations by Apaches to the value of at least \$1,400, the first of which was in the summer of 1867 when 3 mules and 4 jack burros were stolen near the mine.

He then paid \$75 each for 8 good Mexican mules to run the arrastras, four mules working at a time, and after about a week, sent them out to the mine, but never got 10 hours work out of them before the Indians took them; the next loss was when he sent a Mexican and a Negro with a team to cut wood, the negro being killed about two miles from Silver Lake, the harness out up and the two horses taken; late in the fall of 1867 a runner came to Tucson from the mine saying that the Apaches had fired at Pedro, the herder, and had stolen 3 horses, one of them being a big white American saddle horse for which Dr. C.H. Lord, had offered him ten \$20 gold pieces; with a man named Harris, he and Lee trailed the Indians as far as the Tortolita Mountains but never recovered the horses, finding only the carcass of their sorrel horse which the Apaches had killed with a lance and partly eaten.

Naturalized as an American citizen, U.S. District Court, Tucson, March 4, 1867; listed, U.S. Census, 1870, at Tucson, occupation - Miller, property valued at \$8,500; the Tucson Arizonian of January 1, 1870, reported the beginning of the Eagle Mill;

Messrs Lee and Scott, not content with the efficiency of their water power mill, which has placed them high upon the ladder of prosperity, have purchased a steam flour mill which will be erected here at an early date.

He dissolved partnership with Lee in 1873 and on June 1 of that year was appointed Mounted Inspector, U.S. Customs Service, at Tucson, and continued to serve as such until August 21, 1881; he then engaged in cutting timber in the

SCOTT, WILLIAM FISHER

-3-

Santa Rita Mountains for some time but in 1884 returned to flour milling by becoming one of the principal owners of the Eagle Mills; charter Member, Society of Arizona Pioneers, Tucson, February 9, 1884; long a Member of Tucson Lodge, Independent Order of Odd Fellows; was Justice of the Peace of Tucson Precinct, 1881-82; 1885-86, 1888-89; appointed to that office to succeed Roscoe Dale, deceased, in August, 1906, and was then elected to serve successive terms until 1912; died at Tucson, Pima County, Arizona, December 31, 1914, aged 83; buried Evergreen Cemetery, near Tucson; Scott Street in Tucson, named for him.

## SOURCES OF INFORMATION

- De Long, S.R. - History of Arizona, S.F., 1903, p. 168.  
 Parish, T.E. - History of Arizona, Phoenix, 1916, Vol. 4, pp. 255-256.  
 Lockwood, F.D. - Pioneer Days in Arizona, New York, 1932, p. 137.  
 Raymond, R.W. - Mining Statistics West of the Rocky Mountains, 1870, p. 274.  
 U.S. Court of Claims - Indian Depredation Docket No. 7364.  
 Barter, G.W. - Directory of the City of Tucson, S.F., 1881, p. 106.  
 Disturnell, W.C. - Arizona Business Directory and Gazetteer, S.F., 1881, p. 194.  
 Forbes, R.H. - The Penningtons, Pioneers of Arizona, Tucson, 1919, p. 37.  
 Brichta, A. - Manuscript files of Arizona Pioneers Historical Society.  
 W.P.A. Records Project - Journal of the Pioneer and Walker Mining District, 1941, pp. 107, 151.  
 Treasury Department - Secretary's files.  
 The Weekly Arizonian, Tucson, January 1, February 26 and August 6, 1870.  
 The Tucson Post, August 3, 1907.  
 The Arizona Daily Star, Tucson, September 4, 1906, p. 8, c. 2; January 1, 1915, p. 8, c. 3 (obituary).  
 The Tucson Citizen, May 16, p. 3, c. 2, and August 22, 1885, p. 8, c. 2; December 4, 1886, p. 3, c. 3; January 1, 1915, p. 8, c. 5-6 (obituary)