

WOODWORTH, IRA D., born at \_\_\_\_\_ Indiana, about 1839, listed, Territorial Census, April, 1864, at Hardy's Landing, 2d District (Mohave County) age 25, born in Indiana, occupation - Miner, resident in Arizona 7 months, property valued at \$50; his appointment from Mohave City as the first Recorder of Mohave County was contained in an announcement printed in the Prescott Arizona Miner of December 14, 1864:

Mohave County--The Governor has made the following appointments for this County, forming the northern division of the Second Judicial District. Probate Judge, Samuel Eakins; Recorder, Ira D. Woodworth; Sheriff, Milton G. Moore; Treasurer, Wooster M. Hardy. These gentlemen will enter upon their duties the first of January.

The following references to his death which were printed in the Arizona Miner are based up letters written by Washington L. Haskell, Probate Judge of Mohave County, to William H. Hardy who was then in Prescott attending the session of the 3d. Territorial Legislature as a member of the Council from that County:

October 10, 1866 - - The four men killed in the Sacramento District by the Wallapais, are well spoken of by those who knew them, and their loss is a severe blow to that district. Ira Woodworth was for a long time the mining partner of Hon. William Walter, member of the First Legislature from Mohave County.

Judge Haskell, of Hardyville, in writing to Mr. Hardy of the murder of Mr. Woodworth and others, says: "It seems that Judson, after all the advise given him here, and knowing of the murder of Killian, allowed the Wallapais to come to camp, and even to get possession of his arms and those of his companions. The four men have paid their lives for this piece of imprudence. The Wallapais are the same that have been petted in the district." Nice pets truly.

.

October 13, 1866 - - Since the burning of Edward Clower at the Willows on the Mohave road, and the summary killing of Waba Yuma, as a retaliatory measure, the Wallapais, (we are tired of spelling the word Hualapai) have been quiet, and it was fondly supposed that the good ones had gone to live on the Colorado, with the Mohaves and the bad ones to join the Navajos, about the San Francisco mountains. It seems, however, that some of the copper-skinned scoundrels are yet thirsty for blood, and today we have to record a most diabolical outrage perpetrated by them.

The particulars are given in letters to Hon. W. H. Hardy and Hon. A. E. Davis, and are as follows: Ira Woodworth, the first Recorder of Mohave County and a man named (Nathaniel) Benjamin, were at work sinking a shaft in the Sacramento District, near Hardyville, when a number of the Wallapais came suddenly upon them and mortally wounding them at the first fire; Woodworth ran about forty yards and fell down a hill where his body was found, pierced with four bullets, and his head smashed to a jelly. A man named (Andrew) Judson and one named (Metcalf) Baker were working at another shaft nearby and were killed while trying to climb out. The shaft is 130 feet deep, and as the men were coming up, the Indians pelted them with rocks, and also shot Judson, the bullet passing through his body.

San Knodle, who was at the top of the shaft, as soon as shot, jumped and secured his Henry rifle and called to another companion, Mr. (James L.) Conover, to help him fight the Indians. Finding the latter numerous they made haste for camp and ultimately for the river, a distance of eight miles. A party started out immediately to bury the dead. They found all the bodies near where the attack was made, except Benjamin, who had wandered some six miles before death closed his career.

October 16, 1866 - - - Judge Haskell's letter to Honorable William H. Hardy: "After the Wallapais had killed the boys in the Sacramento District we all concluded not to have any Mohaves about here to run and tell tales to Wallapais stopping down in the valley, and drove them away. I think it

has turned out for the best, for the Mohaves made a great talk about it, and were afraid the whites suspected them and intended to fight them. They expressed their determination to be friendly to the whites, and without asking help from them, Sickehoot and Asaket, and their warriors, went after the Wallapais, and killed 26 bucks, and took 19 women and children prisoners. Not a single buck of the Wallapais left the valley alive. We are now satisfied that the Mohaves are all right.

Killed near Silver Hill, in the Sacramento District, Mohave County, A.T., October 1, 1866, aged 27; buried there.

#### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

- Lewis Pub. Co. - Illustrated History of Sonoma County, California, Chicago, 1887, pp. 173-174.
- Farish, T.E. - History of Arizona, 1918, Vol. 8, p. 142.
- Barney, J. M. - Political Activities of the Territorial Governors, Manuscript, 1942, p. 8.
- U. S. Court of Claims - Indian Depredation Docket No. 3840 (C.A. Luke).
- The Alta California, San Francisco, January 25, 1:4 (reprint from the Arizona Miner of December 14, 1865), January 29, 1:7 and March 19, 1865, 1:4.
- The Sacramento Union, November 28, 1866, 3:4 (reprint from the Arizona Miner of October 13, 1866).
- The Arizona Miner, Prescott, December 14, 1864, 3:1; October 10, 2:1, October 13, 2:3 and October 16, 1866, 3:2; October 14, 1871, 1:4.
- The Arizona Enterprise, Florence, July 11, 2:7 "Early Days in Mohave County" (reprint from the Kingman Miner).