

KIRKLAND, WILLIAM HUDSON

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KIRKLAND, WILLIAM HUDSON, born at Petersburg, Dinwiddie County, Virginia, July 12, 1832, son of Hugh Allen and Polly (Hudson) Kirkland; married Missouri Ann Bacon at Tucson, May 26, 1860; children, George W., Hugh A., J. Frank, Elizabeth (Mrs. Thomas Steel), Eliza Jane (Mrs. James F. Roberts), Sara Anna (Mrs. George D. Gilbert) and Ella (Mrs. Wayne Ritter).

Moved as a boy with his parents to Illinois and later to Missouri; at the age of 18 crossed the plains with an emigrant train to California arriving in 1850; came to Arizona via Fort Yuma late in 1855 and arrived in Tucson, January 17, 1856; helped to raise the first American Flag in the Gadsden Purchase when the Mexican troops departed on February 20; built the first graded road in Arizona up Madera Canyon to get out pine lumber from the Santa Rita Mountains with whipsaws; sawing began in September, 1856, and the lumber was sold to the Army Quartermaster at Calabasas for \$250 per thousand until March, 1857, when Major Steen's command was moved to Fort Buchanan; continued getting out lumber which was disposed of at good prices in Tucson until 1861.

Also began farming at Tubac in September, 1856, and sold corn to the Army at 5 cents per pound; settled on the Canoa ranch in the Santa Cruz Valley in the fall of 1857 and stocked it with 200 head of cattle which he bought in Sonora; in January, 1858; the Apache Indians stole 11 of his yoke oxen; listed, United States Census, September 11, 1860, at Lower Santa Cruz Settlement (Tubac P. O.), occupation - Trader, property valued at \$2,500.

In the spring of 1861 he purchased the Torreon ranch on the Santa Cruz for \$1,700; because of the withdrawal of protection of

Federal troops due to the Civil War he abandoned all of his property and in August, 1861 went with his family to Wilmington, near San Pedro, California, where he operated a hotel and a passenger stage line to Los Angeles for nearly two years.

Late in June, 1863, he left Wilmington for Arizona and on arrival at the Stanwix Stage Station, near Agua Caliente, learned of the discovery of gold on the Hassayampa; arranged with George Martin to look after his family and effects and went with an Indian boy and three hired Mexicans to Maricopa Wells and thence followed the trail of the Walker Party northward via what were afterwards Wickenburg and Stanton; lost the trail in what is now known as Peoples Valley and discovered Kirkland Valley where he built a house of green forks and pickets of ash and cottonwood in a beautiful cienega; found the trail and followed it up the Hassayampa and on to Lynx Creek where the Walker Party was then placer mining; during the next three weeks he took out \$700 in gold from a claim that he secured and then returned alone to Agua Caliente.

Brought his family and goods to the Hassayampa where some of the Walker Party had returned and others were engaged in placer mining; after disposing of his stock of goods he moved to Kirkland Valley in December, 1863, to make his home; listed there in the Territorial Census, April, 1864, with wife and two children, occupation - Farmer.

He grew over 15 acres of barley in 1864 but the Apaches harvested most of it at night after it began to ripen; was a member

of the first Yavapai County Grand Jury; with the assistance of Joseph Ehle he built the first water wheel in Yavapai County to operate an arrastra; in January, 1865, the Indians got away with 11 of his horses, 4 mules, 9 jacks and 6 leather Mexican pack saddles loaded with provisions worth \$625; about that same time they also damaged his residence and water power machinery.

Returned to Southern Arizona and engaged in farming at Casa Blanca on the Sonoita, but on June 20, 1868, while he was burning charcoal in a pit, the Apaches stole 12 of his mules and a horse for which he paid \$175 in Tubac only ten days before; he saw about 15 Indians who fired at him and he wounded one of them with his rifle; was compelled to leave the locality abandoning 40 acres of growing corn.

He came back to Kirkland Valley and was listed there in the 1870 Census; moved to the Phoenix townsite where he erected the first family residence in February, 1871; appointed a member of the first Board of School Trustees at Phoenix in May; moved to Tempe in 1872 where he located a fine farm just east of the little Butte and became Justice of the Peace.

He helped to organize the Kirkland and McKinnie Ditch Company which constructed a branch of the Tempe Canal that was enlarged to supply water to operate C. T. Hayden's flour mill at the base of the Tempe Butte; platted the townsite of San Pablo, now known as East Tempe; was elected in 1872 a Member of the Board of Supervision of Maricopa County and served until 1874 when he resigned; that year he relinquished his Tempe farm to Winchester Miller and moved to

Silver City, New Mexico, where he remained for two years.

Was living in Safford in 1877 and carried the mail from Fort Thomas to Clifton, 1878; engaged in freighting from Willcox to Globe, 1881-82, and was appointed Deputy Sheriff at Willcox; the Apaches under Juh attacked a place that he owned at Point of Mountain, 7 miles north of there, on October 31, 1882, killed Josiah Vance, who was stopping there, stole a horse, a mule, a burro and 3 sets of harness; they also took the provisions in the house, broke up the furniture and destroyed the doors and windows; fortunately he had moved his family to Willcox when he heard that the Indians had left the reservation.

Went to the Congress Mine where he operated a dairy and served as Justice of the Peace from 1889 to 1893; moved to Palomas, Yuma County, in 1893 and engaged in hauling ore for G. W. Bowers and A. G. Hubbard from the Bonanza Mine in the Harqua Hala Mountains; later returned to Yavapai County where he was Justice of the Peace at Congress Junction, 1897-98, appointed Road Overseer for District 44 in that part of Yavapai County, June 4, 1901, and served as Constable at Congress Junction from 1903 to 1908; he and his wife attended the first Territorial Fair at Phoenix in 1905 when they received prizes for being the first Americans married in Arizona and for having lived together longest in the Territory.

In December, 1909, he went to Winkleman, Gila County, Arizona, where he died of pneumonia on January 19, 1910, aged 77; buried in the Double Butte Cemetery near Tempe, Maricopa County, Arizona.

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