

Family Histories

MCGEE / DAVID BIO HISTORY

Thomas J. MCGEE was born in 1859 and farmed his entire life. He married Herby Catherine FLANAGAN, in 1878 at Carroll County, Virginia. One child was born from this union, my great grandmother, Armintia Frances MCGEE, born January 21, 1879.

Herby Catherine passed from this life June 03, 1907. Armintia was devastated. Thomas moved to Lincoln County where he remarried twice. His second and third wives were Martha CRIST and Amanda (unknown last name). It is unknown which was his 2nd and which was his 3rd wife.

Armintia married George William DAVID in Missouri, 1901. It is not known if Thomas or his daughter's family moved to Lincoln County, Colorado first, though both found their final rest in the Pleasant Plains Cemetery, outside of Limon.

George William DAVID was a farmer and raised his 6 daughter's and son by himself after his beloved wife had a miscarriage and subsequently caught pneumonia and peacefully breathed her last breath in the arms of her loving husband on February 16, 1916. This union produced 7 girls, 1 boy, with 1 daughter Catherine Elizie, dying in 1908, shortly before she was 1 year of age.

After his marriage to Armintia, they moved to Elbert County, Colorado and farmed on a homestead in 1915. At the time of the great and terrible depression 1928-1929, he left Colorado and moved to New Mexico, continuing to farm. Some of the family moved to Oklahoma to find work in the oil fields. George said the oil fields were no place to raise young girls, thus remaining in New Mexico. Early in 1941, after all the girls were married, George and Thelma moved to Hollister, Missouri and lived with his son, Marvin and his family. When Marvin sold the farm, George and Thelma moved to New Mexico. George then moved to Aurora, Colorado and lived with his daughter Gladys.

George spent a well deserved quiet and peaceful life until at the age of 82, he had completed the tasks God had given him, thus leaving the cares of this world behind to join his beloved wife, Armintia on March 29, 1958, to spend his time walking through the beautiful gardens of Heaven, hand in hand with the only woman he had ever loved. Thomas J. MCGEE is buried next to his wife Amanda, while George and Armintia lay side by side in the same cemetery, Pleasant Plains.

This is the story of my maternal grandmother's family.

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PARRIS

Alford Adolphus (Doc) PARRIS was born 11Aug1861 in Gilmer County, Georgia. His parents were Robert and Lovina (TUCKER) PARRIS. His parents died in 1862 and his Uncle Billy TUCKER raised him. He moved to Dickson, Dickson County, Tennessee in the 1880's and met Tennessee Ann LOFTIS. They were married 18 Mar 1886 in Tennessee. He worked as a logger and construction before 1910 when the family

moved to Kiowa County, OK to try farming. They had eleven children all except the youngest were born in Tennessee.

Around 1913 the family moved to Hugo, Lincoln County, Colorado where he rented a farm. Four of their children: Nettie , Millard, Stanley and Edna Ola moved to Colorado with their parents. Around 1920 Dolphus (Doc) and Tennie moved into Hugo and resided until their deaths. Dolphus (Doc) PARRIS died 23 Dec 1937. His obituary states that he was a highly respected citizen of Hugo and he served as a member on the school board. The school of Hugo was cancelled so that everyone could attend his funeral. Doc and Tennessee PARRIS are buried in the Evergreen Cemetery, Hugo, Colorado.

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VANDERHOOF

George Elba VANDERHOOF was born 14 Nov 1883 in Stanton Twp., Miami Co, Kansas. His parents were Dennis VANDERHOOF and Lucy FORD-VANDERHOOF. George migrated to Swift, Colorado in 1907 traveling by covered wagon. The trip took him three weeks. I have his journal that he made while traveling. He homesteaded a 160 acre farm in Karvel, Lincoln Co., Colorado by 1908.

George VANDERHOOF married Millard (Midgie) Pauline PARRIS of Hugo in 1923. Their first child born 1 Nov 1924 on the homestead was Lucy Mae VANDERHOOF. The hard work of farming and the depression forced George and Midgie into moving to Hugo. There they operated the creamery until the 1940's. Mervin Lloyd and Virgil Duane VANDERHOOF were born in Hugo during the 1930's.

The Gray Lodge Hotel of Limon Colorado was purchased and operated by George and Millard VANDERHOOF in the 1940's. The Bell Hotel was purchased in 1960 by the VANDERHOOFs. Both hotels were where the current Health Clinics are now standing in Limon. George VANDERHOOF operated the Gray Lodge Hotel until his death 20 Feb 1973. George is buried in the Evergreen Cemetery-Hugo, Colorado.

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