

## **THE VINCENT FAMILY**

Joseph Vincent was born in Virginia in 1827. He started west through Ohio; the date is unknown.

The Union Army tried to draft him in Ohio, but being from the south, he escaped to Missouri and settled there. He later continued his trek westward.

In passing through Indiana he met and married Rachael Lewis, from New York, a descendant of Sir Francis Drake.

From Indiana, the Vincent's moved to Iowa, where they farmed. Part of the farm was in Indiana and the remainder in Missouri. They homesteaded this place in 1860. Here Rachel taught school.

In 1864 they went west leaving a good farm because of Rachael's restless nature.

Apparently the family lived in eastern and southern Oregon for a while, then moved to Umatilla County, to a town which at that time was Gravelly Flats, (now Umapine). Joseph took out a homestead of a quarter section of land or 160 acres, and became a very prominent man in the area.

Rachael again became restless and wanted her husband to move on. Joseph refused, and Rachael left him. She took the fifth child, a baby girl, with her.

Because of the children, Joseph remarried. His bride was Almeda Gregory Wilson, who had been born in Missouri and had crossed the plains with the Clint and Walt Hodgen wagon train. She and Joseph later had a son.

The old homestead at Gravelly Flats (Umapine) was later sold for \$10 an acre.

Joseph's second wife died, after which he went to Okanogan, Washington, where he was reported to have died of homesickness and a broken heart. He was buried at Loomis, WA.

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