

THE COWL FAMILY

In 1867, W. A. Cowl and family from Milton, Ulster County, N.Y., moved into the Valley and brought the stage station and Inn at the crossing on the Walla Walla River near the present location of the Marie Harris home.

W. A. Cowl was the first postmaster of Milton in 1873-74.

The Cowl's gave an acre of ground for a site for the first schoolhouse, and later gave five acres for the site of the Central School. A daughter, Mary, married Joe McCoy, and their daughter, now Mrs. Steffenson, resides in Centralia, Washington. George, son of W. A. Cowl, is now deceased.

The crossing on the Walla Walla River seems to have been known at various times as: Gale's Crossing, Cowl's Inn and Ireland Crossing.

Records indicate that there was more water in the Little Walla Walla River than at present.

Early History of the Milton-Freewater Area

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