

NEW RESOURCE AVAILABLE FOR LOCAL RESEARCHERS

The Pioneer Cemetery The Dalles, Oregon 1860-

Compiled and assembled by Earline Wasser
Published by Columbia Gorge Genealogical Society, 2007

In this volume, Earline Wasser has taken a century of research by Lulu Crandall, George Brown, Daphne Hon Ramsey, Lottie LeGett Gurley, Cheryl Gates, Anita Drake, and Lorna Elliott, combined it with many hours of research in the vaults at *The Dalles Chronicle*, to provide a definitive (as we know it at this point) and highly annotated list of burials in this cemetery located just below Columbia Gorge Community College on East Scenic Drive in The Dalles. It contains a complete bibliography.

Wasser also outlines over ten years of work by The Dalles Historic Landmarks Commission, Columbia Gorge Genealogical Society, archeologists Eric Gleason and Jacqueline Cheung, The Dalles Wahtonka Anthropology class under the direction of Gerald Iken, and other volunteers who cleared brush, located graves, and mapped their locations using global positioning technology. An interesting section quotes newspaper articles as early as 1880 lamenting the condition of the cemetery. Thanks to the diligence of volunteers and the hard work of Historic Landmarks staff member Dawn Hert and commission member Bob McNary, the cemetery has been cleared of brush, a new fence has been built, paths and gateways lead through the cemetery from Scenic Drive to the college entrance, and a wrought iron entrance gateway is in the planning stages. The cemetery is rapidly becoming an asset to the neighborhood.

The book is divided into the following sections:

- * Cemetery deed and selected newspaper articles 1880-2005
- * Photos of selected markers
- * Individuals listed
- * Obituary and other information for those interred
- * Sources
- * Alphabetical Index

The Pioneer Cemetery, The Dalles Oregon, 1860- sells for \$20.00 a copy with a postage charge if applicable. It is available through **Columbia Gorge Genealogical Society**. An order form can be accessed through their website at <http://community.gorge.net/genealogy>, by emailing

wildflowers@gorge.net with the subject line PIONEER CEMETERY, or by mailing a request to Columbia Gorge Genealogical Society c/o The Dalles/Wasco County Library, 722 Court Street, The Dalles, Oregon 97058. It will also be available for sale at Historic The Dalles Days at the Cemetery Walk from 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM. In addition, it will be available from Labor Day weekend through Historic The Dalles Days at **Klindt Booksellers**, 315 East 2nd Street in The Dalles.

Fire, weather, vandalism, and time have taken a toll on the identification of the graves in The Dalles Pioneer Cemetery. **Columbia Gorge Genealogical Society** has collected over four thousand dollars in contributions toward a granite monument, to be placed in the cemetery, listing the names of everyone buried there. All profits from the sale of this book will go toward purchase of the monument. If you have questions contact Sandy Bisset at 541-298-1240 or wildflowers@gorge.net.

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