

Logansboro Genealogy

Family Profiles

William Weiser Logan, 1864

The first permanent white settlers on the Weiser River were William and Nancy Logan, and the latter's brother J.N. (Norm) Harris. Logan and his future wife Nancy were fleeing from the wrath of her parents, who were keeping a boarding house at the old town of Auburn, southwest of Baker. The parents were opposed to a union between them as Nancy was better than a raw hand at cooking and waiting on the table. The young people had an entirely different notion about it and Logan secured a couple of saddle horses and a pack horse and with Nancy's brother Norm Harris, lit out for Idaho. The nearest place they knew where they could procure the services of someone to perform a marriage ceremony.

They came by way of Burnt River and struck Snake River where the Olds Ferry was later established. They camped overnight at the current location of Weiser. Logan was delighted with the appearance of the country. Understanding that Olds was soon to put in a ferry on the Snake somewhere below here, he decided that here would be a good place to start a road house, as the travel would no doubt follow down this side of the river as soon as the ferry was in, instead of going along the Oregon side of the river as it had for a number of years.

They went on to Placerville, in the Idaho basin where the Justice of the Peace was found and the wedding ceremony performed. After the wedding the three returned to Weiser, selected a site and built a house of mud and willows and began to get ready for the entertainment of the travel that was soon to come.

As Logan had been advised, Olds and associates put in their ferry, long known as Olds Ferry in the fall of 1863 and began operations, under a charter granted them by the first territorial legislature at Lewiston, the territorial capital at the time. The cost was \$3.00 for the team and wagon, for the extra team, \$1.00; for a loaded pack animal \$.75; for pack animal returning, \$.50; for horse and rider \$.75; for footman \$.25; for loose animals \$.25.

The ferry business proved to be financially successful as did Logan's roadhouse. The Logans ran the business for a few years when they disposed of it and took a ranch about three miles up the Weiser River. Their first two children were born in 1864 and 1865 respectively.

William Weiser Logan b. 3/13/1864 d. 3/11/1937

Married Hattie Jane Nora Denham, b. 7/6/1875 d. 3/31/1892