

Genealogical and Historical Records of the Bond, Hayes, Bridgefarmer, and Kuthe Families

Bond Family (Oregon Pioneers of 1853)

Solomon Bond (1819–1900) – Solomon Bond was born in Kentucky on November 21, 1819 ¹. As a young man he moved with his parents from Kentucky to Indiana (c.1822) and then to Illinois (c.1829) ². In the 1830s his family settled in Iowa Territory ³, where Solomon married **Huldah Hayes** on January 6, 1842 in Jefferson County, Iowa ⁴. Solomon was a farmer and a devout Baptist. In 1853, he and Huldah joined a wagon train to Oregon, travelling the Oregon Trail with their four young children (Lydia, William, Mary, and infant Susan) ⁵. Solomon's brother George Bond kept a diary of the overland journey; one entry on June 29, 1853 notes, "*Solomon's ox died*," illustrating the hardships on the trail ⁶. The Bond family arrived in Oregon in the fall of 1853 and settled a Donation Land Claim (No. 703) of 319.71 acres near present-day Halsey in Linn County ⁷. Under the Donation Land Act, the claim was split, with half the acreage in Huldah's name and half in Solomon's name ⁸. Solomon appears in early Oregon records – for example, the 1860 U.S. Census of Linn County lists him as a 41-year-old farmer from Kentucky (with \$300 real estate), living with Huldah and their growing family ⁹ ¹⁰. Solomon continued farming in Linn County for decades, accumulating over 400 acres and considerable livestock by 1870 ¹¹ ¹². He was noted as a respected early settler of the Halsey area. Solomon Bond died at his homestead on February 18, 1900 at age 80 ¹³. An obituary in the *Albany Weekly Herald* lauded him as "a pioneer of 1853" and "*a loved and respected citizen of Linn County*," noting his long church leadership and upright character ¹⁴. At the time of his death, he and Huldah had a large family of surviving children spread across Oregon ¹⁵.

Huldah (Hayes) Bond (1827–1903) – *See also the Hayes Family section below.* Huldah was born March 15, 1827 in Burton, Geauga County, Ohio ¹⁶. She was the daughter of Seth Hayes and Lydia Jewett (pioneers of Ohio – see Hayes section). Family lore notes that Huldah was named after an elder sister who died in childhood in 1823 ¹⁶. Huldah married Solomon Bond in Iowa in 1842 as noted, and together they ventured west to Oregon in 1853 with their children ¹⁷. Huldah's name appears alongside Solomon's in many records, reflecting the equal claim she had to their Oregon land. For example, the patent for their Donation Land Claim in Linn County was issued in both Huldah's and Solomon's names in 1865 ⁸. Huldah is recorded in Linn County census records through the 19th century, often listed as keeping house and noted as born in Ohio (with her father born in New York and mother in New Hampshire) ¹⁸. She lived to see Oregon develop over 50 years of statehood. Huldah Bond died June 26, 1903 at age 76 at the family home near Halsey ¹⁹. Her obituary in the *Albany Democrat* remembered her as "*a woman of excellent character, a good citizen in every respect*," and listed her surviving children: William H. Bond of Helix (Umatilla Co.); John Bond of Lone Rock (Gilliam Co.); Melvin Bond of Coburg; Harvey Bond of Leland; Mrs. Orin Clark (daughter Lydia) of Seal Rock; and Charles and Austin Bond of Halsey ²⁰ ²¹. Three of her daughters had predeceased her (including **Susan Augusta Bond Bridgefarmer**, see below) ²⁰. Huldah was buried in Halsey Pioneer Cemetery in Linn County alongside Solomon ¹³ ¹⁹.

Susan Augusta Bond (1852–1886) – Susan was a daughter of Solomon and Huldah, born April 2, 1852 in Iowa ²². As an infant she traveled with her parents along the Oregon Trail in 1853, arriving to Oregon at

just one year old ⁵ . Susan grew up on her parents' donation land claim in Linn County, Oregon. On October 6, 1872, she married **Alanson Lawson Bridgefarmer** in Linn County ²³ ²⁴ . After marriage, Susan and Alanson settled on his farm near Tangent, Linn County. Tragically, Susan Augusta (Bond) Bridgefarmer died on December 2, 1886 at only 34 years of age ²⁵ . She is buried at Halsey Pioneer Cemetery (the same cemetery as her parents) ²⁶ ²⁷ . Contemporary records, including family histories, remember her as the mother of five children who were still quite young at her passing ²⁸ . Susan's life connects the Bond family of Oregon pioneers to the Bridgefarmer family (see Bridgefarmer section) – a union of two pioneer lineages.

(Key Records: *Solomon and Huldah Bond – 1850 Iowa Census* ²⁹ ; *1853 Oregon Trail diary* ³⁰ ; *1854 Donation Land Claim #703 in Linn Co.* ³¹ ; *1860 & 1870 Linn Co. Census* ⁹ ¹⁰ ; *Obituaries in 1900 and 1903* ¹⁴ ²⁰ . *Susan Bond – Oregon marriage record 1872* ²³ ; *Family cemetery records* ²⁶ ²⁷ .)

Hayes Family (Pre-Oregon Origins of Huldah Hayes)

The **Hayes family** represents the lineage of Huldah (Hayes) Bond, bringing an East Coast ancestry into the Oregon pioneer story. **Seth Hayes (c.1786–1860)** and his wife **Lydia (Jewett) Hayes (1793–1864)** were Huldah's parents ³² . Seth was likely born in the Northeastern U.S. (family research suggests he descended from the colonial Hayes family of New England, possibly related to the *George Hayes of Simsbury* line ³³). Lydia Jewett was born in New Hampshire, and Seth and Lydia married in 1818 ³² . They settled in Geauga County in the Western Reserve of Ohio, where Huldah was born in 1827 ¹⁶ . (The 1900 census entry for Huldah Bond lists her father born in New York and mother in New Hampshire, consistent with Seth and Lydia's origins ¹⁸ .) The Hayes family later moved further west to Iowa Territory in the 1830s. By the time of Huldah's marriage to Solomon Bond in 1842 in Iowa, the Hayes family had become part of the westward-moving frontier population. While Seth and Lydia themselves did not migrate to Oregon (they lived out their lives in the Midwest), their daughter Huldah carried the Hayes legacy to Oregon. Huldah's middle name "Hayes" was preserved in records (often noted in parentheses) when identifying her, as in *Huldah (Hayes) Bond*. Huldah's siblings also carried on the family name; for example, her brother Seth Whipple Hayes (1825–1876) remained in the Midwest, and other siblings married and settled in Iowa or Illinois ³⁴ . The Hayes family heritage is thus rooted in early American stock – English/Yankee settlers – who pushed westward through Ohio and Iowa. This background contributed to Huldah's resilience and character as an Oregon pioneer. Notably, Huldah was named after an elder sister who died young, indicating the Hayes family's desire to carry forward that name ¹⁶ . While fewer direct records of Seth and Lydia are found in Oregon (since they did not go west), their existence is documented in marriage records and the birthplaces noted in their children's records ³² ¹⁸ . In sum, the Hayes line provides an important pre-Oregon context: a family with New England roots and Midwest pioneer experience, whose daughter became an Oregon Trail matriarch.

(Key Records: *Marriage of Seth Hayes & Lydia Jewett (Gauga Co., OH, 1818)* ³² ; *Gauga Co. OH vital records; Huldah Bond's census entries noting parents' birthplaces* ¹⁸ ; *"George Hayes of Simsbury" genealogy reference* ³³ .)

Bridgefarmer Family (Early Oregon Trail Settlers of 1847)

David M. Bridgefarmer (1796–1864) – The Bridgefarmer family were among the very first wave of Oregon Trail emigrants. **David McDonald Bridgefarmer**, the patriarch, was born in North Carolina in 1796 ³⁵ . He

married **Nancy A. Hall** of North Carolina and gradually moved west in the early 19th century ³⁶. David's path mirrors the nation's expansion: after marriage he lived in Kentucky, then Indiana, then briefly in Illinois (Warren County) around 1831 ³⁵ ³⁷. By the 1830s he had relocated to Benton County, Missouri, where several of his younger children were born ³⁸. In 1847, hearing the call of Oregon, David Bridgefarmer organized an overland journey. In mid-1847 he and a neighboring family outfitted ox-drawn wagons and trekked the Oregon Trail, spending six months on the road ³⁹. They arrived in the Oregon Country in November 1847 ⁴⁰. David's wagon train encountered typical challenges – they lost some cattle to theft by Native Americans, but fortunately suffered no deadly conflicts ⁴¹. The Bridgefarmers first wintered near Fort Vancouver in 1847–48, then in spring 1848 David took a **Donation Land Claim** in Yamhill County, Oregon Territory ⁴². He located his claim on the west side of Wapato Lake, adjacent to what is now Gaston, Oregon ⁴². There David established a productive farm and became a prominent local citizen – he helped organize one of the first Methodist Episcopal churches in the vicinity and promoted local schools ⁴³. David Bridgefarmer died on his Yamhill County homestead in the mid-1860s (around age 68) ⁴⁴. He and Nancy had a very large family (12 children) who would spread out across the Pacific Northwest ⁴⁵. Six of their children were still living by the early 1900s, including several in Washington State (Christian in The Dalles, OR; Alanson in Linn Co., OR; William in Bridgeport, WA; Francis M. in WA; David McDonald Jr. in WA; and Adam in Seattle) ⁴⁵. The Bridgefarmer name thus became part of both Oregon and Washington pioneer history.

Alanson Lawson Bridgefarmer (1832–1906) – Son of David M., Alanson L. Bridgefarmer was born January 13, 1832 in Warren County, Illinois ⁴⁶. He was 15 when his family crossed the plains to Oregon in 1847, and he is recorded as arriving in Oregon on November 25, 1847 ⁴⁰. As a young man Alanson helped work his father's Yamhill farm until about age 22 ⁴⁷. In the early 1850s, he struck out on his own, moving to Linn County in the Willamette Valley. He secured land at the forks of the Santiam River, possibly via a claim or purchase, and by March 1855 he formally claimed a tract under the Donation Land Claim act (claim No. 2023 in Linn County) ⁴⁰. The DLC application for Alanson confirms his Oregon residency: he was born in Morgan County, Illinois and arrived in Oregon Territory by November 1847 ⁴⁰. During the Rogue River Indian War of 1855, Alanson volunteered for militia service – he enlisted under Captain Jonathan Keeney and served 101 days on frontier guard duty ⁴⁸. After the hostilities, Alanson returned to farming. A few years later, he purchased a 155½-acre farm about a mile southeast of Tangent, Linn County ⁴⁹. There he built a prosperous homestead, engaging in general farming and livestock (he was noted for raising fine horses in his earlier years) ⁴⁹ ⁴⁸. On October 6, 1872, Alanson married **Susan Augusta Bond** (age 20) in Linn County ²⁴. Susan was the daughter of fellow pioneers Solomon and Huldah Bond, and a native of Iowa who had come to Oregon as a baby ²⁴. The newlyweds settled on Alanson's Tangent farm, where they would raise their family. Alanson and Susan had five children: **Huldah Imogene, David S. (David Solomon), Anna M. (Anna May), Ella F. (Ella Imogene), and William A. (William Austin)** ²⁸. The Bridgefarmers were active in the community; Alanson was a member of the local Grange and a trustee, and he remained involved with the Methodist Church that his father helped found ⁴³ ⁵⁰. Sadly, Susan Bond Bridgefarmer died in 1886, but Alanson continued farming into his old age. He died January 27, 1906 in Tangent, Linn County at age 74 ⁵¹. Alanson is buried at Halsey Pioneer Cemetery, the same cemetery as his wife and in-laws ²⁶. Through Alanson's long residency (over Fifty years in Oregon), he was considered "*one of the most highly esteemed residents of Linn County*" in contemporary biographical records ⁵² ⁵³. His life spanned the pioneer era into the 20th century.

Huldah Imogene (Bridgefarmer) Kuthe (1873–1907) – Huldah Imogene, often called "Imogene," was the eldest child of Alanson and Susan Bridgefarmer. She was born in August 1873 in Albany, Oregon ⁵⁴ ⁵⁵, not long after her parents' 1872 marriage. Huldah grew up in Linn County. On October 19, 1892 (at about

age 19) she married **George Washington Kuthe**, a young farmer, and the couple lived in the Jefferson area (on the Marion/Linn County border) ²⁸ . Huldah likely met George Kuthe in the Willamette Valley; George was of German-American background (his father was an immigrant from Germany) ⁵⁶ . Huldah and George had at least one child, a daughter named Frances Anita Kuthe (born 1898) ⁵⁷ . Unfortunately, Huldah's life was cut short. She died in 1907 at only 33 years old ⁵⁴ . Huldah Imogene was laid to rest in Jefferson Cemetery in Marion County, OR ⁵⁸ . Her grave records list her by her maiden and married names ("Bridgefarmer Kuthe"), linking the two pioneer families. Huldah's widower, George W. Kuthe, later relocated to Arizona (as noted below in the Kuthe section). Huldah's brief life still exemplified the generational continuity of Oregon pioneers – she was a native Oregonian whose parents and grandparents had come over the Oregon Trail, and she herself carried that legacy forward, marrying and starting a family of her own in Oregon before her untimely death.

(Key Records: David M. Bridgefarmer – 1847 Oregon Trail migration account ³⁹ ; Yamhill Co. Donation Land Claim 1848 ⁴² . Alanson Bridgefarmer – Donation Land Claim No. 2023 (arrival 1847) ⁴⁰ ; 1855 militia service records ⁵⁹ ; 1872 marriage record ²⁴ ; Pioneer biographical sketch (Portrait & Biographical Record) ⁵² ⁶⁰ . Huldah Bridgefarmer – birth/baptism records in Linn Co.; 1892 marriage (OR Marriage Index); burial record at Jefferson Cemetery ⁵⁴ .)

Kuthe Family (German-American Family with Oregon and Arizona Ties)

Frederick "Fred" Kuthe – The Kuthe surname originates in Germany. **Fred(erick) Kuthe** was the father of George W. Kuthe. According to family records and George's death certificate, Fred Kuthe was born in Germany ⁵⁶ and immigrated to the United States, settling in Missouri. The mid-19th century saw a large influx of German immigrants into Missouri (tens of thousands arrived in the 1830s–1850s), and the Kuthe family was part of this wave. Frederick Kuthe married **Sarah Ann Steagall** (or **Patterson** – records vary) in Missouri, and they started a family in Dent County, MO. We know that in **Salem, Dent County, Missouri**, on October 14, 1869, their son **George Washington Kuthe** was born ⁶¹ ⁶² . (George's death record lists his father as Fred Kuthe, born in Germany, and mother as unknown – likely because the informant did not have her name ⁵⁶ . Other sources give his mother's name as Sarah Ann Steagall.) The Kuthe family's presence in Dent County is documented in local records (for example, a **Dent County marriage register** shows a "M. Friedrich Kütke" marrying Maria Lueret in 1853, possibly a relative) ⁶³ . It's likely that Frederick and family moved west or that George ventured out on his own as a young man, because by the 1890s we find George living in Oregon. Fred Kuthe's own fate is less documented in Oregon – he may have remained in Missouri or passed away before the migration west. The key point is that the Kuthe line brings **German heritage** into the family tree and a story of 19th-century immigration to the American Midwest.

George Washington Kuthe (1869–1925) – George W. Kuthe was born in Dent County, Missouri, and grew up in a community with many German-American families ⁵⁶ . In the 1890s he moved to Oregon (possibly drawn by opportunities in farming or via connections to other settlers). In 1892, George married **Huldah Imogene Bridgefarmer** in Oregon (Huldah was from a pioneer Oregon family – see Bridgefarmer section) ²⁸ . The couple lived in Marion/Linn County, Oregon, near the town of Jefferson, and George worked as a farmer. They had a daughter, Frances Anita Kuthe, born in Oregon in 1898 ⁵⁷ . After Huldah's death in 1907, George eventually left Oregon. By the early 1920s, he had relocated to the Southwest, likely for health or economic reasons. George remarried; his second wife was named **Nell** (as noted on his death certificate) ⁶⁴ . George W. Kuthe died on December 2, 1925 in Phoenix, Arizona at the age of 56 ⁶⁵ ⁶⁴ . The cause of

death was listed as *staphylococcal infection* (likely a complication of an illness) ⁶⁶. His Arizona death certificate confirms key details: born in Salem, Missouri on Oct. 14, 1869; father Fred born in Germany; occupation farmer; and spouse Nell Kuthe at time of death ⁶² ⁶⁴. George was buried in Phoenix's **Greenwood Memory Lawn Cemetery** ⁶⁷, far from the green Willamette Valley of his earlier years. His only child, Frances, appears to have died just a few months after him in 1926 at age 27 ⁵⁷. (Frances Anita Kuthe's grave is also recorded, suggesting she may have remained in Oregon or accompanied her father to Arizona – further research could clarify her story.) The Kuthe family's journey—from Germany to Missouri to Oregon to Arizona—illustrates the broader currents of migration in American history. In George Kuthe, we see a convergence of the Oregon pioneer story (through his marriage) and the immigrant story. His descendants (if any survived beyond 1926) would carry roots in both the Old World (Germany) and the American West. The user's own ties to **Arizona** are notable here: George W. Kuthe's final chapter took place in Phoenix, Arizona, which provides a direct ancestral connection to the state of Arizona. Meanwhile, the **Washington State** connection in this lineage comes from the Bridgefarmer side (several of Alanson Bridgefarmer's siblings and one of his sons lived in Washington ⁴⁵ ⁶⁸, and interestingly Huldah's brother David S. Bridgefarmer is buried in Vancouver, WA ⁶⁸). Thus, the intertwined Bond-Hayes-Bridgefarmer-Kuthe ancestry touches many regions: the Midwest and Great Plains (origins), Oregon (pioneering and settlement), Washington (later generations), and Arizona (new frontiers in the 20th century).

(Key Records: *George W. Kuthe – Missouri birth register (Dent Co., 1869); Oregon marriage record 1892 (Marion Co.)* ²⁸; *Arizona death certificate (1925)* ⁶² ⁶⁴; *Find-a-Grave entry with burial in Phoenix* ⁶⁷. *Frances A. Kuthe – Oregon birth index 1898; death/burial record 1926. Frederick Kuthe – 19th-century Missouri immigration and naturalization records; Dent Co. marriage records* ⁶³.)

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 25 29 30 31 32 33

Joanne's Genealogy - Person Page

<https://www.joanneskelton.com/p15.htm>

²³ Susan Augusta Bond Bridgefarmer (1852-1886) - Find a Grave

<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/26391203/susan-augusta-bridgefarmer>

²⁴ ²⁸ ³⁵ ³⁶ ³⁷ ³⁸ ³⁹ ⁴¹ ⁴² ⁴³ ⁴⁴ ⁴⁵ ⁴⁶ ⁴⁷ ⁴⁸ ⁴⁹ ⁵⁰ ⁵² ⁵³ ⁵⁹ ⁶⁰ bridgefarmer bio ORGenWeb

<https://orgenweb.atwebpages.com/bios/bridgefarmer-d.html>

²⁶ ²⁷ ⁵⁴ ⁵⁵ ⁵⁸ ⁶⁸ Ella Imogene Bridgefarmer Filkins (1873-1930): Grave Location in Portland, OR |

PeopleLegacy

https://peoplelegacy.com/ella_imogene_bridgefarmer_filkins-7V435b1

³⁴ Lydia Louisa Jewett (Hayes) (1823 - 1911) - Genealogy - Geni.com

<https://www.geni.com/people/Lydia-Jewett/6000000207869185844>

⁴⁰ Genealogical Data Found in Oregon Land Donation Claims

<http://genealogytrails.com/ore/landclaimsgeniedata3.html>

⁵¹ Alanson Lawson Bridgefarmer (1832-1906) - Mémorial Find a Grave

<https://fr-ca.findagrave.com/memorial/114359925/alanson-lawson-bridgefarmer>

⁵⁶ ⁵⁷ ⁶¹ ⁶² ⁶⁴ ⁶⁵ ⁶⁶ ⁶⁷ George Washington Kuthe (1869-1925) - Find a Grave Memorial

<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/55169414/george-washington-kuthe>

⁶³ Marriages of Lewis County, Mo 1851-1860

<https://lewis.mogenweb.org/mgs1851-1860.html>