

Historical Timeline of Oregon, Salem and the Asahel Bush Family

Introduction

Prior to 1543

4000 BCE to 1600

- The Kalapuya tribes camp along Mill Creek near present day I-5 and Highway 22

500 BCE

- Early Chinese contact with the Pacific Northwest

1000

- Local tribes camp along the Willamette River to fish and collect supplies for winter

Oregon Country 1543-1847

1543

- Spanish explorers sail along the southern coast of the Oregon Country

1579

- English Sea Captain, Sir Francis Drake sails to the south coast of the Oregon Country

1765

- The name "Ouragon" is first used in proposal to explore the American West

1774

- Captain Juan Perez continues Spain's exploration of the coast of the Oregon Country

1775-1780

The first smallpox outbreak among the Oregon Country's tribal peoples

1778

- British Captain James Cook establishes the fur trade along the coast of the Oregon Country

1780

- Approximately 31,000 members of Kalapuya tribes are living in the Willamette Valley

1788

- Marcus Lopez, cabin boy for Captain Robert Gray, is the first person of African descent in the Oregon Country

1792

- The Columbia River is discovered by American Captain Robert Gray and British explorer George Vancouver in separate voyages

1801-1802

- The second smallpox outbreak among the Oregon Country's tribal peoples

1803

- President Jefferson's purchase of the Louisiana Territory in the central U.S. sparks interest in the Oregon Country

1804-1806

- Explorers Lewis and Clark travel from St. Louis, Missouri to the mouth of the Columbia River
- Sacajawea and her husband guide Lewis and Clark from what is now North Dakota to the Pacific Ocean

1805

- York, William Clark's slave, comes to the mouth of the Columbia River with the Lewis & Clark Corps of Discovery

1811

- The Pacific Fur Company establishes Fort Astoria and other trading posts along the lower Columbia River

1812

- Two clerks for the Astor Fur Company are the first non-tribal members to build a log dwelling - trading house in the Willamette Valley

1813

- Fort Astoria is purchased by Britain's North West Company and is renamed Fort George

1814

- Jane Barnes, the first non-native woman in the Oregon Country, travels to Fort George

1818

- The United States and Great Britain agree to jointly occupy the Oregon Country

1819

- The Adams-Onis Treaty establishes the southern boundary of the Oregon Country, later Oregon, at the 42nd parallel

1821

- The Hudson Bay Company acquires the North West Company

1824, June 4

Asahel Bush is born in Westfield, Massachusetts

1825

- Dr. John McLoughlin, chief factor, oversees the construction of Fort Vancouver, on the north bank of the Columbia River, for the Hudson Bay Company

1827

- Dr. John McLoughlin establishes the first sawmill in the Pacific Northwest near Fort Vancouver

1828

- The first grist mills are established by the Hudson Bay Company at Fort Vancouver

1829

- Dr. McLoughlin allows French Canadian trappers to settle on the banks of the Willamette River near present day St. Paul

1830

- Widespread epidemics kill thousands of tribal members along the Columbia and Willamette Rivers

1831

- Four tribal members are believed to have traveled to St. Louis, Missouri which sparked the Methodist missionary's travels to the Oregon Country

1833, January 13**Eugenia Zeiber is born in Princess Anne, Maryland**

- The first school in the Oregon Country is established at Fort Vancouver

1834

- Methodist missionaries Reverends Jason Lee and Daniel Lee establish a mission at Mission Bottom, 10 miles north of present day Salem

1836

- Additional Methodist missions are established in the Oregon Country

1837

- Two small groups of reinforcements arrive at Mission Bottom, 10 miles north of what is now Salem

1838

- Roman Catholic missionaries arrive in the Oregon Country

1839**Asahel Bush's father, a successful farmer, passes away in Westfield, Massachusetts**

- Fathers Blanchett and Demers establish the first Roman Catholic mission in what is now St. Paul

1839-1842**Asahel Bush works as a printing apprentice at the *Saratoga Sentinel* newspaper in Saratoga Springs, New York****1840****The Zeiber Family moves from Princess Anne, Maryland to Peoria, Illinois**

- 52 Methodists, known as the Great Reinforcement, sail on the *Lausanne* to the Oregon Country

- A sawmill and grist mill are constructed at Broadway and High Streets in what is now Salem

1841

- Settling the estate of Ewing Young prompts American settlers to begin forming a provisional government
- The first Oregon Trail settlers arrive in the Oregon Country
- The *Star of Oregon* is the first ship built by Americans in the Oregon Country
- Jason Lee builds the first home in what is now Salem

1842-43

Asahel Bush works with the state printer in Albany, New York

- The Oregon Institute, later known as Willamette University, is founded in Salem
- Dr. John McLoughlin establishes Oregon City near Willamette Falls

1843-1850

Asahel Bush studies law with William Blair and Patrick Boise in Westfield, Massachusetts

- The Oregon Provisional Government is established at Champoeg
- The first large group of settlers travel the Oregon Trail to the Oregon County

1844

- Slavery is declared illegal in the Oregon Country, and laws excluding African American are passed
- Mission Bottom is closed and the mission's property is sold

1845

- The city of Portland is established on the Willamette River

1846

- The United States and Britain divide the Oregon Country at the 49th parallel creating the boundary between the U.S. and Canada
- The Oregon Trail is extended into the Willamette Valley
- The first newspaper, *Oregon Spectator*, is published in Oregon City
- Salem is selected as the name of the town rather than Chemeketa

1847

- Thomas Cox arrives in Salem with 11 wagons of dry goods and opens the first store

Oregon Territory 1848-1858

1848

- The Oregon Territory is established and Abraham Lincoln declines the invitation to be the first governor
- Three-Quarters of the men in the Oregon Territory seek their fortunes in the California Gold Rush

1848-1850

Eugenia Zeiber attends the Moravian Seminary for Young Ladies, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania

1849

John Zeiber begins planning to move his to Oregon City, Oregon

1849-1850

Asahel Bush is the editor of the *Westfield Standard* newspaper in Westfield, Massachusetts

- General Joseph Lane is appointed the Territorial Governor and the Superintendent of Indian Affairs
- The second store, which houses a post office, is opened in Salem
- Campoick is renamed Marion County
- The first "Beaver" coins are minted in gold in Oregon City

1850

Asahel Bush is admitted to the bar in Springfield, Massachusetts and is able to practice law

Asahel Bush arrives in Oregon via Panama in Central America

Asahel Bush is elected Chief Clerk of the Oregon House of Representatives in Oregon City

- The Oregon Donation Land Act grants free land to "whites and half-breed Indians" and forces the renegotiation of various treaties with the tribes
- Mail service is established between San Francisco and the Columbia River
- There is an active system of steamboats traveling on the Willamette River
- The Territorial Legislature designates Salem as the capital city of the Oregon Territory
- The *Oregonian* newspaper is established in Portland

Mid 1800s

- Hispanics immigrate to the Oregon Territory to work in the mines

1850s

Asahel Bush leads a group of influential Democrats known as the *Salem Clique*

1851

Asahel Bush is the founding Editor of the *Oregon Statesman* newspaper in Oregon City

Eugenia Zeiber travels with her family to Oregon

- Jacob Vanderpool, a black saloon keeper, is kicked out of Oregon City, Oregon
- The Oregon Territorial government passes a law allowing George Washington Bush, an African-American pioneer and humanitarian, to settle in the Oregon Territory
- The steamboat "The Hoosier" operates on the Willamette River between Salem and Oregon City

1851-1859

Asahel Bush becomes the Territorial Printer for the Oregon Territory in Oregon City

1852

- The United State Congress names Salem the capital of the Oregon Territory
- The Oregon Territorial government and Territorial Library moves from Oregon City to Salem

1853

Asahel Bush moves the *Oregon Statesman* newspaper to Salem

- Joel Palmer becomes the Superintendent of Indian Affairs and establishes the reservation system
- The Oregon Territory's first tribal reservation is established in Southern Oregon at Table Rock

1853-1856

- Fighting between the native people and settlers leads to the Rogue River Wars in the southern Oregon Territory

1854

Asahel Bush marries Eugenia Zeiber in Salem

- The first Territorial capitol is constructed in Salem and burns the next year
- The legislature bars the legal testimony of people of color in proceedings involving a person of European descent

1855

- The Oregon Territorial Capitol building burns and destroys the state library's collection of books
- The first telegraph company is established in the Oregon Territory

1856

Estelle Bush is born in Salem

- The Millrace from the Santiam River to Mill Creek brings water power to the first woolen mill

1857

- A state constitution is written by a convention of Oregon Territory citizens in Salem. The draft document bans slavery and bars African Americans from living in the Oregon Territory
- The city of Salem is incorporated and is voided the following year due to an administrative error
- The railroad is completed through Marion County

1858

A.N. Bush is born in Salem

- The first state officers are elected in Oregon including Governor John Whiteaker

State of Oregon 1859-Present

1859-1864

Asahel Bush becomes Oregon's first State Printer

- Oregon becomes a state on February 14 with a state constitution that excludes people of color
- The first stage coaches on the Oregon Trail
- The first bank established in Oregon is the Ladd & Tilton Bank in Portland
- Oregon's first governor, John Whiteaker is inaugurated

1860

Asahel Bush Purchases a 100 acre farmstead in Salem, now Bush's Pasture Park

Sally Bush is born in Salem

- Lucien Heath, Asahel Bush future business partner, is elected Salem's first mayor and also serves as the Oregon's first Secretary of State
- Daily stagecoach travel is established between Portland and Sacramento.

1861

Asahel Bush is appointed to the Board of Visitors for the United States Military Academy at West Point, New York

- The Civil War begins in the Eastern United States
- The Willamette River floods Salem to High Street

1861-1865

Asahel Bush supports the Union during the American Civil War

1862

Asahel Bush is a member of the Democratic Convention in Baltimore, Maryland

Eugenia “Genie” Bush is born in Salem, Oregon

- The first Oregon State Fair is held in Salem

1863

Eugenia Bush passes away in Salem and leaves four children

Asahel Bush sells the *Oregon Statesman* newspaper in Salem

- The telegraph is completed from Salem to California and brings news of the Civil War

1863-1867

Asahel Bush maintains a silent partnership in Salem’s Lucien Heath & Company

1864

- Salem becomes Oregon’s state capital by popular vote
- Telegraph lines connect Portland and Sacramento

1865

- The Civil War ends in the Eastern United States

1866

- Travel on the Oregon Trail declines with the construction of the railroads
- The Oregon State Penitentiary moves from Portland to Salem
- The Married Women’s Property Act protects the assets a woman brings to her marriage

1868

Asahel Bush partners with William S. Ladd to establish the Ladd & Bush Bank in Salem

The Ladd & Bush Bank is built in downtown Salem on the corner of Commercial and State Streets

- The 14th Amendment of the U.S. Constitution passes in Oregon restricting the state’s ability to limit the rights of American citizens
- The Corvallis College, now Oregon State University is established in Corvallis

1869

The Ladd & Bush Bank opens in Salem

1870

- The 15th Amendment of the U.S. Constitution grants African American men the right to vote

- The Oregon and California railroad line is completed between Portland and Salem
- Abigail Duniway launches a suffrage campaign which would secure the right to vote for women

1870s

Asahel Bush invests in the Salem Flouring Mills, Salem Woolen Mills, Salem Foundry and the Oregon Steam Navigation Company, known as the Oregon Railroad & Navigation Company

1871

- A privately owned water system is established in Salem

1873

- The cornerstone for the second Oregon state capitol building is laid
- A great fire destroys much of downtown Portland

1874

Sally Bush graduates from the Sacred Heart Academy in Salem

1876

- The Oregon State Capitol is completed in Salem
- The University of Oregon is established in Eugene

1877

- The First Baptist Church opens a Chinese mission school in Salem and Jeung Gwoon Jee is the city missionary

1877-1878

Asahel Bush builds a two story Italianate farmhouse, now Bush House Museum in Salem

1878-1882

Asahel Bush serves as the Superintendent of the Oregon State Penitentiary in Salem

- Women obtain the right to vote in school elections.

1879-1882

Eugenia "Genie" Bush attends the Burnham School for Girls in Northampton, Massachusetts

1882

A.N. Bush graduates from Amherst College, Massachusetts

State teacher training schools are established in Ashland and Monmouth

1882-83

Eugenia "Genie" attends Wellesley College, in Massachusetts

1883

Sally Bush graduates from Smith College in Northampton, Massachusetts

- The transcontinental railroad connects the East coast with the West coast
- The Oregon State Hospital is completed and occupied

1884

Estelle Bush marries Claudius Thayer and they move to Tillamook
 Eugenia "Genie" Bush attends Smith College in Massachusetts

- The first home telephone system is installed in Salem

1885

- The first cement sidewalks are installed in Salem
- The Bureau of Indian Affairs establishes the Chemawa Indian School north of Salem

1886**A. N. Bush marries Lulu Hughes in Salem**

- Electric lighting is introduced in Salem
- Mary Gysin Leonard is the first woman in Oregon to become a lawyer

1887**Asahel the IV is born to A.N. and Lulu Bush**

Eugenia "Genie" Bush corresponds with Edward W. Kemble (1861-1933), illustrator of *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, regarding art/sketching schools on the East Coast

- The Dawes Act abolishes tribal ownership of reservation lands and members of the tribe are given individual parcels to farm
- The Bennett House hotel, a residence for working men, burns in Salem's Chinatown

1888

Asahel Bush serves as Chairman of the Central State Committee at Oregon's Democratic State Convention

- The *Capital Journal* newspaper is founded in Salem

1889

Eugenia "Genie" Bush corresponds with Henry Janeway Hardenbergh (1847-1913), famous architect, regarding working in the architecture field

- Thomas Lister Kay builds a large wooden structure for the Thomas Kay Woolen Mill

1890

- Long distance telephone service is established between Salem and Portland

1892

Asahel Bush attends the Democratic National Convention in Chicago, Illinois

1893

President Grover Cleveland seriously considers appointing Bush as the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury

Eugenia "Genie" Bush is committed to the Bloomingdale Asylum in New York

Sally Bush moves to New York City temporarily to be close to her sister

- Salem's fire department transitions from an all volunteer brigade to paid staff

1893-1897

- Construction of the Salem City Hall begins and the building is completed four years later

1894

Eugenia “Genie” Bush is transferred to the Hartford Retreat for the Insane in Hartford, Connecticut. Sally Bush returns to Salem

- The Mazama Club is established to promote outdoor recreation in Oregon

1895

- The Thomas Kay Woolen Mill burns to the ground

1896

- A brick building is constructed for the Thomas Kay Woolen Mill

1897

Eugenia Thayer is born in Tillamook

1898

- The Oregon Historical Society is established in Portland to preserve Oregon history

1902

Asahel Bush serves on the Board of Directors for the Lewis & Clark Exposition in Portland

- Oregon is the first to adopt state initiative and referendum laws allowing people to place measures on the ballot and recall existing laws by popular vote
- Crater Lake National Park opens in Southern Oregon

1903

- The first automobile is brought to Salem
- The Salem Women’s Club establishes an organization which later becomes the Salem Public Library
- Salem’s Chinatown is demolished for health and police concerns
- McCants Stewart is the first African American attorney admitted to the Oregon State Bar

1905

- The Lewis & Clark Centennial Exposition is held in Portland to celebrate the anniversary of Lewis & Clark’s exploration
- Chinese workers are employed on the railroads and farms and in laundries and restaurant

1907

- Court Street, from Commercial to Church, is the first street to be paved in Salem

1908

- C. Gilbert, Salem born toy inventor, wins a gold medal in pole vaulting at the Olympics in Stockholm Sweden

1909

Estelle Bush Thayer, and husband Claudius, close the bank and moves to Berkeley, California

- Oregon Caves National Monument in Southern Oregon is opened the public

1910

The Ladd & Bush Bank is incorporated as a state bank in Salem

- The airplane first flight in Oregon

1911

- The City of Salem assumes responsibility for the Salem Public Library

1912

- Women gain the right to vote in Oregon eight years prior to the 19th amendment to the U.S. Constitution is passed
- The Salem Public Library moves into a new building at State and Winter Streets funded with a Carnegie grant

1913, December 23

Asahel Bush passes away in Salem

- West Salem is incorporated as a city

1914

A.N. Bush asks Oregon Senator Harry Lane to assist in getting Eugenia “Genie” Bush discharged from the Hartford Retreat for the Insane in Hartford, Connecticut

Eugenia “Genie” Bush returns to Salem to live with Sally Bush, her sister

- The Portland Chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) is established

1917

- C. Gilbert opens the world’s largest toy factory in New Haven , Connecticut

1918

Eugenia Thayer contracts the Spanish flu and passes away in Berkeley, California

- Over a two year period there are 3,675 Spanish flu related deaths in Oregon
- The Portland National Guard mobilizes to fight in World War I

1922

Claudius Thayer passes away in Berkeley, California and his wife Estelle Bush Thayer returns to Salem

1923

A.N. Bush establishes the Ladd & Bush Trust Company in Salem

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