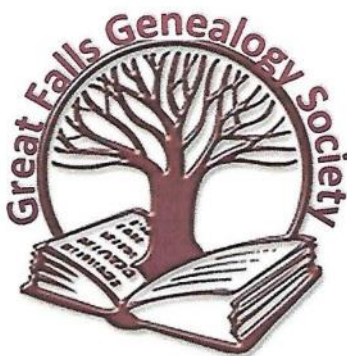


Treasure State Lines



1975

2022

Great Falls Genealogy Society

December 2022

Volume 47—Number 1

TREASURE STATE LINES
Great Falls Genealogy Society
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The Great Falls Genealogy Society was founded in 1975 as a non-profit educational and research organization. Membership is January through December. Dues are \$35 for individuals and \$60 for couples. We encourage all members to participate in the activities and duties of the Society. Members receive a monthly newsletter and the semi-annual publication in June and December, plus free use of our computers for research and access to over 10,000 items - books and maps. Genealogy classes are also offered.

MEETINGS. Monthly general meetings and programs are scheduled the second Thursday of each month, September through May, at 6:00 p.m. Guests and visitors are always welcome. Currently, meetings are held on Zoom and in person.

GENEALOGY LIBRARY. The Genealogy Library is located on the third floor of the Great Falls Public Library at 301 2nd Ave N. The genealogy library is staffed entirely by volunteers. Hours are Monday through Saturday, 12 p.m. to 4 p.m.

BOARD MEMBERS:

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Vice President	Janet D. Thomson
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<i>The Falls Newsletter</i>	Cheryl Lucas/Janet Thomson

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Research Policy

Researchers will complete a comprehensive search of the records available at the Great Falls Genealogy Society library.

The fee is \$35.00 per immediate family.

Photocopies of obituaries, marriage license/certificates and birth and death certificates are \$5.00 each if ordered separately.

Research will commence upon receipt of the fees; check or money order can be sent to our Great Falls office. Payment by PayPal is also available.

Any additional search of local records readily available at the Cascade County Courthouse *requires an additional fee and additional time.* Other fees may apply if the request is extensive.

For additional information, contact the Research Department by mail or at: gfgenealogy@genlibrary.org

Find us on



Great Falls Genealogy Society is a 501(c)(3) non-profit so your donations are tax deductible.

CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS ADOPTED NOVEMBER 10, 20-22

CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I NAME

The name of this organization shall be Great Falls Genealogy Society.

ARTICLE II OBJECTIVES

The Great Falls Genealogy Society is organized exclusively for educational purposes, including, for such purposes, the making of distributions to organizations that qualify as exempt organizations under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law.) The Society shall have the following objectives:

To promote and encourage active interest in genealogy, compile accurate and complete genealogies and collect and preserve genealogical records.

Further objectives will be defined in the Bylaws.

ARTICLE III MEMBERSHIP

Any person of good character, willing to contribute time and effort to further the objectives listed in Article II, shall be eligible for membership in the organization upon payment of dues.

Classes of membership will be defined in the Bylaws.

ARTICLE IV MEETINGS

The Great Falls Genealogy Society shall have regular meetings and workshops for approximately eight months of the year.

The meeting place and date may be changed temporarily by the President. All members must be notified.

ARTICLE V OFFICERS

Officers of this Society shall be a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and three Trustees.

All officers shall be elected at the Annual Meeting. The terms of office shall be one year, except for Trustees. The officers may be re-elected.

Duties of the officers shall be defined in the Bylaws.

ARTICLE VI

No part of the net earnings of the organization shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to its members, trustees, officers, or other private persons, except that the organization shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purposes set forth in Article II hereof. No substantial part of the activities of the organization shall be the carrying on of propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the organization shall not participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office. Notwithstanding any other provision of these articles, the organization shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on (a) by an organization exempt from Federal Income Tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law) or (b) by an organization, contributions to which are deductible under section 170(c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law.)

ARTICLE VII AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

1. This Constitution may be amended only at the Annual Meeting in November by a two-thirds vote of those voting, using the following procedures:

Proposals may be submitted in writing by any members to the Executive Board at least four months prior to the Annual Meeting.

All such proposed amendments, together with the recommendations of the Executive Board shall be presented in writing to the membership at least two months prior to the Annual Meeting.

ARTICLE VIII DISSOLUTION

Upon the dissolution of the organization, the Executive Board shall, after paying or making provision for the payment of all the liabilities of the organization, dispose of all of the assets of the organization exclusively for the purposes of the organization in such manner, or to such organization or organizations organized and operated exclusively for educational purposes as shall at the time qualify as an exempt organization or organizations under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provisions of any future United States Internal Revenue Law) as the Executive Board shall determine.

This transfer of assets shall be decided at the last General Membership Meeting of the full membership, as recommended by the Executive Board, provided such action passes in due process by a three-fourths vote of the active membership.

Further information defined in the Bylaws.

BYLAWS

ARTICLE I NAME

The name of the organization shall be Great Falls Genealogy Society.

ARTICLE II OBJECTIVES

The objectives of this Society shall be:

To promote and encourage active interest in genealogy, compile accurate and complete genealogies and collect and preserve genealogical records.

To foster education and training in genealogy through courses and instruction in genealogy, lectures, forums, seminars, special work.

To publish a bi-annual publication known as TREASURE STATE LINES as funds are available.

The Society shall not carry on any activities not permitted to be carried on by an organization exempt from income tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

To sponsor and operate the Great Falls Genealogy Society Library. The Executive Board of the Great Falls Genealogy Society is responsible for all Library operations, including the arrangement of the Library and its Collections.

ARTICLE III MEMBERSHIP AND DUES

Section A. Membership

Any person of good character, willing to contribute time and effort to further the objectives listed in Article II, shall be eligible for membership in the Society upon payment of dues.

The membership and fiscal year of the Society shall be from January 1 through December 31.

Membership shall be automatically terminated upon failure to pay annual dues by March 1.

Section B. Dues The amount for dues may be changed by the recommendation of the Executive Board and vote of the membership. The following classes of dues will apply:

Individual

Joint (two related individuals residing at the same address)

Junior (under age 18)

Lifetime Individual

Lifetime Joint (two related individuals residing at the same address)

ARTICLE IV MEETINGS

Section A. Regular Meetings The Great Falls Genealogy Society shall meet on the second Thursday of each month for approximately eight months of the year. The meeting place and date may be changed temporarily by the President.

Section B. Special Meetings Special meetings of the Society may be called by the President, the Executive Board, or by written request of ten members. Members must be notified at least six days prior to the meeting. No business other than that stated shall be conducted. A quorum of ten members must be present in order to transact business.

Section C. Annual Meeting The General Membership Meeting in November shall be known as the Annual Meeting.

Section D. Quorum Provided the date and time of any meeting has been adequately publicized at least six days prior, at least ten members present at the meeting shall constitute a quorum for conducting business.

Section E. Meetings Held Electronically. Members may attend any GFGS meeting in person or through an electronic method of communicating by which all participating members may simultaneously hear each other during the meeting. Any member participating in any meeting either in person or electronically shall be counted present for all purposes, including quorum and voting. Any action that could be taken at an in-person meeting may also be taken at a remote meeting. Procedural rules related to the conduct of electronic meetings shall be established and made known by the Executive Board with GFGS Standing Rules. Voice voting, roll call, software-provided voting icons or polls may be used for any voting.

ARTICLE V OFFICERS

Section A. The officers of the Society shall be President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and three Trustees.

Section B. Term of Office The term of office shall be one year beginning at the end of the Annual meeting and installation of new officers in November and ending at the end of the Annual meeting and installation of new officers in November except for Trustees. Beginning with the election for 1990, one Trustee will be elected for a one-year term, one for a two-year term, and one for a three-year term. Thereafter, only one new three-year Trustee will be elected. No member shall hold more than one office at a time. They may be re-elected.

Section C. Vacancy Any vacancy in office may be filled for the unexpired term by appointment of the Executive Board.

Section D. Records Each officer shall turn over to the successor, or the presiding President of the Soci-

ety, all records and correspondence pertaining to the respective office within twenty (20) days after the termination of the incumbency or resignation.

Section E. Past Presidents as non-voting members of the Board. In order to instill continuity in the leadership of the organization, past presidents shall be encouraged to attend board meetings as non-voting members.

ARTICLE VI EXECUTIVE BOARD

Section A. The Executive Board shall consist of the elected officers. The President of the Society shall be the presiding officer.

Section B. Unless otherwise ordered, regular meetings of the Executive Board shall be held the week prior to the General Membership meeting. The President may call a special meeting to discuss a specific item of business.

Section C. Provided the date and time of a meeting has been adequately publicized at least six days prior, at least four officers present shall constitute a quorum for conducting business.

Section D. Any vacancy occurring on the Executive Board, with the exception of the President, may be filled until the next election of officers by a majority vote of the remaining members of the Executive Board, providing a quorum is present.

Section E. The Executive board shall:

1. Have supervision of the affairs of the Society between General Membership meetings.
2. Make recommendations to the Society.
3. Direct committees.
4. Be subject to the orders of the Society and none of its acts shall conflict with the action taken by the Society.

ARTICLE VII DUTIES OF OFFICER

Section A. President

Preside at all meetings of the general membership and the Executive Board.

2. Appoint all committees, naming the chairman, with the exception of the Nominating Committee. All appointments must have the approval of the Board.
3. Sign, with the Secretary, all contracts and documents authorized by the Society.
4. Sign, with the Treasurer, checks for authorized disbursements on behalf of the Society.
5. Be an ex-officio member of all committees except the Nominating Committee.

Section B. Vice President

1. Assume the duties of the President in the absence of, or at the request of, the President.
2. Assume the duties of the President for the remaining term of office in the event of a vacancy in the office of President.
3. Be chairman of the Program Committee.

Section C. Secretary

Keep minutes of the proceedings of the Society and the Executive Board

2. Keep and have available a file containing the Constitution, Bylaws, and Standing Rules of the Society.
3. Maintain a current paper and electronic inventory of all legal documents, records, and equipment belonging to the Society.
4. Sign, with the President, all necessary contracts and documents authorized by the Society.
5. Co-sign checks in the absence of either the President or Treasurer.
6. Be responsible for the management of the Society's correspondence including electronic communications.
7. Officers and committee chairmen shall furnish original incoming and copies of all outgoing correspondence to the Secretary.

Section D. Treasurer

1. The Treasurer is the authorized custodian of funds of the Society. The treasurer receives and disburses moneys as prescribed in the local Bylaws and Standing Rules or as authorized by action of the Society.
2. All funds received shall be deposited in a financial institution approved by the Executive Board in an account in the name of the Society.
3. The Treasurer shall prepare a budget for the following fiscal year and submit it to the Society at its next Annual Meeting. Bills for amounts over \$100.00 will be presented to the membership for approval with the exception of routine business expenses (i.e. insurance, monthly phone/ internet bill, Public Library parking passes, publication costs, etc.).
4. All checks must be signed by two of the three following officers: Treasurer, President or Secretary.
5. Prepare and submit a monthly financial statement containing the income and disbursements of the month as well as year-to-date figures, balance sheet and list of bills paid that month. Copies should be made for all Executive Board members. The report should be signed by the Treasurer. A copy shall be available upon request.
6. The Treasurer shall file with the Internal Revenue Service annually the forms necessary to maintain the Society's tax-exempt status.

Section E. Trustees

1. Serve as the Auditing Committee for the Society.
2. Assist the President in other areas as needed.
3. Will receive mail ballots and hold, unopened, until the Annual Meeting.

ARTICLE VIII NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

Section A. Nominations

1. A Nominating e Committee will be appointed by the Executive Board by July 1.

2. The Committee shall present a list of at least one nominee for each office being vacated to the Executive Board and to the general membership in September.
3. The list of candidates shall be published in the September newsletter.
4. Write-in nominations may be made by the general membership, provided each nominee has given written consent to serve if elected. Write-in nominations, with written consent of nominees, may be mailed in, or brought to the October meeting.
5. If, after the October meeting, there is only one candidate for each position, then no ballots will be necessary and the list of nominees will be considered elected by acclamation at the November meeting. If any position requires an election, the Nominating Committee will create ballots to be distributed to members.

Section B. Elections

Officers will be elected and installed at the Annual Meeting in November.

Section C. Voting

If necessary, voting shall be by mail ballot. All ballots must be received by 12:00 p.m. (noon) of the day of the Annual Meeting. All ballots will be opened and counted together by the Trustees after 12:01 p.m. of the day of the Annual Meeting. The Trustees shall bring the ballots and the result of the count to the Annual Meeting.

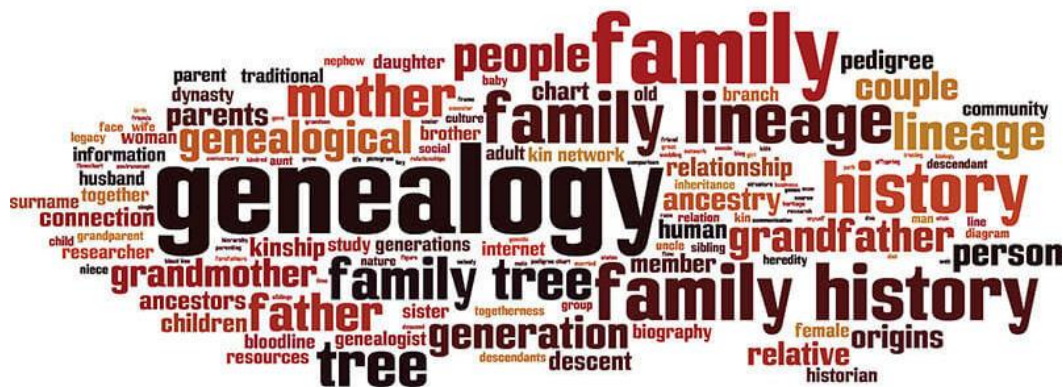
ARTICLE IX AMENDMENTS

These Bylaws may be amended only at the Annual Meeting in November by a two-thirds vote of those voting using the following procedures.

1. Proposals may be submitted in writing by any member to the Executive Board at least four months prior to the Annual Meeting.
2. All such proposed amendments, together with the recommendations of the Executive Board shall be presented in writing to the membership at least two months prior to the annual Meeting.
3. The revised or amended Constitution and Bylaws as adopted by members at the Annual Meeting will be published in the next issue of TREASURE STATE LINES.

ARTICLE X PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

The rules contained in Robert’s Rules of Order, Newly Revised shall govern the Society in all cases in which they are applicable and which are not inconsistent with Bylaws and any Standing Rules.



<https://www.u3a.org.uk/images/subjects/Genealogy/genealogy1.jpg> from Bing Image Search

Great Falls and Cascade County, Montana Territory Thomson's 1887-1889 Timeline

Most items in this timeline are also referred to in articles found in the *Great Falls Tribune* or the *Great Falls Leader* on or near the dates noted. The *Great Falls Tribune* was produced only on Wednesdays and Saturdays, while *The Great Falls Leader* was published six days a week, excluding Mondays. *Commentary in italic print made by Janet D. Thomson.*

With regard to the Newspaper Index which accompanies this timeline, the article title listed in an item may not be the actual headline as it appeared in the newspaper. Newspaper headlines are not always descriptive, so the author sometimes substituted topic headings to better describe the particular subject. Readers should also pay attention to the category associated with the particular item. Categories are named in a separate document for the convenience of researchers.

1864 May 26 Montana Territory created; Organic Act—*there was a standard organization for how the Territory was to be governed.*

1887

May 21, 1887 Businessmen in Great Falls form a Board of Trade organization [1].

July 23, 1887 An article reported that the first Great Falls City Directory had been produced, and was for sale [*GF Tribune*, July 23, 1887, p. 1]

August 24, 1887 The GF school board had engaged Miss McBrine to again teach for the school year [1].

September 3, 1887 Citizens at Sun River Crossing protested the formation of Cascade County [2].

September 12, 1887 Cascade County was formed out of Meagher, Chouteau, and Lewis and Clark Counties. Officials and officers were appointed temporarily, with positions taking effect at midnight, December 21, 1887. Commissioners: Charles Wegner, J.A. Harris, T.A. Wall. *County Commissioners began their tasks unofficially in September, preparing to take over all county-level functions in December, 1887.*

October 29, 1887 Miss Jessie Rich, Helena, is hired as a second teacher in Great Falls [1].

November 27, 1887 Railroad grade completed into Great Falls, Manitoba RR. [*GFT*, September 25, 1889, 1].

December 21, 1887 Cascade County is officially recognized by law and county business begins.

December 22, 1887 Thomas Wall fails to qualify as a Commissioner. Judge Rolfe must appoint...[4]
Charles B. Walker and Kate Heppler are the first couple married in the new Cascade County [4].

December 28, 1887 Bridge worker William Schlict was accidentally killed in the Manitoba Railyard on the west side of the Missouri River [1].

1888

January 9, 1888 Cascade County Commissioners met in special session. Charles Wegner was elected Chairman. County Commissioners discussed the annual assessment of the county, beginning in February, and appointed Harry Ringwald as Deputy Treasurer for Cascade County.

January 11, 1888 The train schedule was published for eastward journeys on the Chicago, Burlington, & Northern RR. Phil Gibson was noted as the Great Falls local agent and ticket seller.

January 18, 1888 Special meeting of the Cascade County Commissioners.

February 1, 1888 Great Falls was announced as the home of the new 4th Judicial District Court. Bach was named

Great Falls and Cascade County, Montana Territory Thomson's 1887-1889 Timeline (continued)

as the new District Court Judge in Great Falls. A Cascade County Delinquent Tax List was published in the GF Tribune.

February 15, 1888 The first railroad engine was reported as crossing the new railroad bridge over the Missouri River. The bridge was noted as completed on February 11, just four days before.

February 18, 1888 The Cascade County Bar Association was established, and members were listed in report.

February, 25 1888 The **Cascade Town Plat** was officially filed with Cascade County Commissioners.

March 6, 1888 According to the Official Minutes of the Cascade County Commissioners, J.A. Rickley presented a bill of \$50.00 for burying paupers, and was so paid. **Note:** no names of those buried, nor how many burials were covered by that \$50. Fee. [GFT, March 17, 1888, p. 3, Official Minutes]

March 7, 1888 Noted in the paper: Great Falls citizens applied to Cascade County Commissioners to become an incorporated city. However, there were flaws found in the application and it was rejected.

March 17, 1888 Cascade County licenses by business name and type of business were listed in the *Tribune*, as a part of the quarterly County record. All taxes and licenses had been collected for the first time by Cascade County. Great Falls was not yet incorporated. *This list can be separately found within the first issue, 2015, of The Treasure State Lines.* Cascade County Commissioners Official Minutes were published in the GF Tribune.

March 19, 1888 Cascade County Commissioners met in special session.

March 28, 1888 Cascade County Commissioners met in special session.

28 March 28, 1888 The new Park Theater was nearly complete, to be opened in April.

April 19, 1888 Cascade County Commissioners met, and the session took at least two days.

May 9, 1888 The *Tribune* announced that a Board of Trade had been organized by Great Falls business people.

June 1, 1888 The new Wagon Bridge over the Missouri was completed (approximate date).

June 13, 1888 The Sun River was reported as flooding at Fort Shaw. Episcopalians were given two city lots for a church. By the first week of July, bids were received to build the Episcopal church.

June 13, 1888 Judge Bach traveled to Sun River, but arrived too late to prevent Private Robinson's lynching by a crowd there.

June 16, 1888 Cascade County Grand Jury reported on the lynching at Sun River, and examined books and practices of the Cascade County offices. The Grand Jury recommended that Sun River have a resident deputy. The jail was declared unfit by the Grand Jury. Judge Bach received the Grand Jury Report, and lamented the Sun River lynching—John Athey was the Grand Jury Foreman.

June 16, 1888 Cascade County licenses by business name and type of business were listed in the *Tribune*, as part of the County official records (p. 2). All taxes and license fees were collected at the county level, as Great Falls city was not yet incorporated.

June 22, 1888 Cascade County Commissioners met in special session.

June 27, 1888 CC Commissioners purchased a lot in Great Falls, on which to build a County Jail.

Great Falls and Cascade County, Montana Territory Thomson's 1887-1889 Timeline (continued)

July 4, 1888 Great Falls held a huge 4th of July Celebration.

July 7, 1888 Gorham, Cascade County Assessor was noted as being busy collecting a poll tax for support of the poor.

July 13, 1888 Cascade County Commissioners met in special session.

28 July 28, 1888 Dan McKay was chosen to build the Cascade County Jail. Within a month, Commissioners decided to double the size of the jail being built.

July 28, 1888 The Electric Light Plant was reaching completion, according to *The Great Falls Leader*.

August 4, 1888 Black citizens in Great Falls held a 25th anniversary party, celebrating the Emancipation Proclamation. Blacks in Helena also held a similar celebration.

August 4, 1888 Dr. Reid (Reed) announced he would open a temporary Manitoba Railroad Hospital in Great Falls.

August 11, 1888 The Pioneer Hook & Ladder Fire Company held their annual meeting, with election of personnel. They were a volunteer department.

August 29, 1888 *GF Tribune* announced that the electric lights had been tried in city businesses the night before.

August 29, 1888 John Stanton was noted as in the process of **taking a census of Great Falls** residents for the purpose of presenting data to the County Commissioners as a part of the proposed city incorporation process.

August 30, 1888 Stanton's Census of Great Falls enumerated about 2,000 people.

August 31, 1888 The Cascade County School Census for the year ending August 31, 1888 was collected by Miss Bessie Ford, the County Superintendent of Schools, as per Montana Territorial law. The actual report was released in mid-December, at a County Commission meeting. Persons **between the ages of 4 and 21**: males, 486; females 445; **Total, 931**. Students **between the ages of 6 and 16**: males, 277; females, 249; **Total 526**. **Number attending school**: males, 180, females, 140; **Total, 320**, across 13 organized school districts within Cascade County. [The Great Falls Leader, 14 Dec. 1888] *This report in the newspaper is the only known accounting—no lists of the names of students have been found.*

September 1, 1888 William Roberts, builder, was awarded the contract to build a 2-story brick high school. There was an "Official Report of Licenses Collected By Treasurer of Cascade County, for the Quarter ending September 1, 1888" given to County Commissioners. At the end of the lengthy report, J.W. Matkin, County Clerk, noted: "Of the above amount the sum of six hundred dollars is to be deducted, being \$20 rebate on each of thirty saloons, which the Treasurer collected and which he was directed by the Board of County Commissioners to refund to the parties having paid the same."

Sept 5, 1888 Great Falls city Official Notice of Intent to Incorporate appeared in the *GF Tribune* (p. 4). In other business, Dry Fork Town was laid out, and a plat was prepared for County Commissioner approval.

8 September 8, 1888 Cascade County Commissioners met in special session. They set precinct boundaries, and appointed election judges for the coming county election.

September 9, 1888 Yellow Fever continued to rage in Florida and in New Orleans. It was big news in local Great Falls papers.

September, 1888 Cascade County licenses by business name and type of business were listed in the *Tribune*, as a part of the County record (p.2),

Great Falls and Cascade County, Montana Territory Thomson's 1887-1889 Timeline (continued)

September 17, 1888 Cascade County Commissioners met as a Board of Equalization regarding tax payments and individual tax protests in the county.

September 29, 1888 The third page of the *Tribune* offered a recap of almost all businesses in Great Falls (see "Our Merchants" p. 3). Cascade County Commissioners concluded the 1888 tax equalization hearings and adjustments. Commissioners set the tax levy for the year. *The Leader* announced that the **Gorham Town Plat** had been completed by Surveyor Kern. The paper also announced the rapid building which was occurring at the new town of **St. Clair**.

4 October 4, 1888 Commissioners canvassed the vote regarding Incorporation of the City of Great Falls as a 2nd Class Montana Territory city. Incorporation won; commissioners directed that an election to select Great Falls city officers would be held on November 10, 1888.

October 5, 1888 Commissioners directed the Cascade County sheriff to build a fence around the new jail.

12 October 12, 1888 Journeymen barbers said they would no longer work Sundays. Those who signed: Herman Goodyear, Henry Gates, Abe Palsgrave, Wm. Hall, Nick O'Brien, Charles Williams, S. F. Morris. Brick work on the new county courthouse began.

November 7, 1888 The *Tribune* reported that 973 votes were cast in Cascade County; this compared to 84 votes cast in 1884, and in 1886, 274 votes [Great Falls Tribune, 7 November, 1888, p.2]. **The following Cascade County officials were elected-----**

November 12, 1888 City election results were in, and the Commissioners canvassed the returns of the vote of the election of officers of the city of Great Falls: **Mayor**, Paris Gibson; **Treasurer**, Harry Ringwald; **City Attorney**, John W. Stanton; **Police Magistrate**, George E. Huy; **Aldermen**, First Ward—John A. Fairfield, R.R. Hotchkiss; Second Ward—Charles Wegner, D.R. Mitchell; Third Ward—J.C. Johnson, Joseph Matthews; Fourth Ward—W. P. Beachley, Chris N. Dickinson.

November 13, 1888 Commissioners spent much of the day examining the county jail building. The Assessor was directed to enforce the collection of the special poor tax from all who had not previously paid.

December 4, 1888 The newspaper noted that about 150 men were employed at Sand Coulee, making the monthly pay roll a big one for the county.

December 6, 1888 Great Falls city ordinances were being adopted at a fast rate by the new City Council. Ordinance # 1 fixed precise ward boundaries for the four city wards, and was approved on December 5, 1888. Those exact boundaries were published a day later in the *Tribune*.

December 8, 1888 Cascade County Commissioners met in special session lasting through Dec. 15, with another special session planned for December 31.

12 December 12, 1888 The article below concerns the newly-designated Highland Cemetery (formerly Sand Coulee Cemetery):

Great Falls and Cascade County, Montana Territory Thomson's 1887-1889 Timeline (continued)

Highland Cemetery.
Great changes have been made in the Sand Coulee cemetery. The Highland cemetery (as it is now called) the only one within a radius of several miles, is situated within three miles of Great Falls. Ready access is afforded by the main road to Sand Coulee. The ground is situated on a gentle, sloping hill affording a beautiful view of the surrounding country and all the mountain ranges in the distance. Plans providing for magnificent avenues, &c. have been prepared. Sufficient lots have been laid out for the winter and the company is now prepared to dispose of them at such prices as to meet the needs of all. It is believed that the system used for platting the grounds will meet the demands of all interested. Part is intended for the burial of strangers or of persons desiring to reserve single lots. The size of these are 5x10 feet, which is large and adequate for adornment. Another portion is devoted to family lots. These are 10x14 feet with wide roomy path-ways. The platting was done by County Surveyor Kern.

The Sand Coulee roads were accepted by the county commissioners. One of them—the main road—touches the cemetery, which has been much improved and fenced in.

17 December 17, 1888 Newly-elected Cascade County officers were at their posts, except for the Treasurer (Mr. Clark) who would not take office until March (Territorial Law). Sheriff Downing had been re-elected, as was Ernest Ringwald, County Clerk. Assessor Gorham was available as needed, and Judge Dyas kept hours in the Probate Judge rooms in the Central Block. Public Administrator Beachley was ready for business, and so was County Surveyor Kern. Dr. Ladd was the new County Coroner, and Commissioners Clingan and Hastie were conducting business as usual.

December 21, 1888 Frank Coombs had completed brick work on the new school house, plasterers were finishing the interior, gas and steam fitting would be done by the end of December, and the new building was estimated as ready for use on about January 15, 1889.

22 December 22, 1888 At the end of the year, the Great Falls Townsite & Water Power Co. still listed as its officers: C.A. Broadwater, President; Paris Gibson, Vice President; C. M. Webster, Secretary, and A.E. Dickerman, Treasurer. The new Great Falls City Council was in the process of discussing and acting on a city waterworks franchise proposal, to take care of fire safety and local city needs. The proposed franchise term was for 20 years, if it passed.

December, 1888 Bessie Ford, Cascade County Superintendent of Schools, noted the following county schools and their student populations at the end of 1888: **Great Falls #1**, 280; **Sun River #2**, 117; **Cascade #3**, 141; **Stickney #4**, 32; **Chestnut #5**, 91; **Truly #6**, 45; **Sand Coulee #7**, 54; **Lower Belt #8**, 12; **Willow Creek #9**, 30; **Belt #10**, 60; **Otter #11**, 17; **Clendenin #12**, 45; **Grafton, #13**, 9 students. Each District received school funds based on \$10.80 per student [*Great Falls Tribune*, 29 December, 1888, p. 4.]

December 29, 1888 An "Official Report of Licenses Collected By Treasurer of Cascade County, for the Quarter

Great Falls and Cascade County, Montana Territory Thomson's 1887-1889 Timeline (continued)

ending December 31, 1888" was given to County Commissioners. [Great Falls Tribune, 29 December, 1888, p. 4]

December 30, 1888 *The Great Falls Leader* published its 56th edition since October, 1888.

1889

January 1, 1889. *The Great Falls Leader* published a "Directory" [in the newspaper], of Cascade County Officials, Great Falls City Officials, Post Office workers, School Teachers, Secret Societies [with their officers appended]. It also provided a one page brief descriptor of most GF businesses, and professional men (lawyers, dentists, architects, physicians, et al). Hastie, Hanks, Clingan were noted as the Cascade county commissioners.

January 16, 1889. *The Great Falls Tribune* reported on the sudden failure of the C. P. Thomson dry goods store in Great Falls. Thomson himself went to Canada, the failure attributed to his mis-management. He owed I.G. Baker & Co. \$12,324.00, among others [p. 1, 2]. *By the end of January, most actions against C. P. Thomson had been adjudicated in the courts. See the Index to find individual articles about this business failure.*

February 22, 1889 Omnibus Statehood Bill passes, and President Cleveland signs four states into law: Montana, Washington, North Dakota, and South Dakota. These territorial governments begin a process to create state constitutions, and elect state officials, before becoming states officially in November, 1889.

March 14, 1889 GFPS School Trustees Wegner, Rolfe, and Ladd advertise the annual GFPS school election. School District # 5 also schedules a vote on trustees, and includes a vote on a fence around its school building. Otter Creek **Board** members also advertise their vote [GF Leader, 1].

March 20, 1889 Great Falls and Sand Coulee were to have daily railway mail service, beginning April 1 [GF Leader].

March 30, 1889 Group of businessmen meet for the purpose of forming a "The Northern Montana Agricultural, Mineral and Horse Racing Association"—those present include P. Gibson, W. Hanks, Tod, R. Vaughn, D. Churchill, C. Wegner, Rolfe, T. Collins, Pence, Boardman, Horst, Dickerman, Fairfield, E. Ringwald, J. Stanton, C. M. Webster [GF Leader, March 31, 1889, 1].

March 31, 1889 GF Leader publishes a list of Cascade County Licenses issued through March 1, 1889. It still includes Great Falls city businesses.

April 1, 1889 King, the plumber hired by the Great Falls Waterworks Company, advertises for workers for "digging and filling seven miles of trench and for laying seven miles of cast iron water pipes"... This is the official beginning of the Great Falls city waterworks, which was scheduled to be finished by August 1, 1889. [GF Tribune].

April 10, 1889 Great Falls City election results: J. Fairfield, Mayor; [GF Tribune, 4—see also April 17, p. 4]

April 10, 1889 Great Falls Public Schools District #1 election. [GF Tribune, 4]

April 17, 1889 Fair organization (see March 30) decides to purchase 160 acres on the west side of the Missouri River. "in the vicinity of the mouth of Watson Coulee...the tract in question is as level as a floor almost and is excellently adapted for the purpose for which it is intended" [GF Tribune, 1]

April 17, 1889 Mrs. Frank Ward's sudden death was announced. She died impoverished, in a dugout down on the river bank, and an inquest was performed. In the same issue, George Benson's funeral was mentioned—his drowning was also the subject of an inquest [3].

April 18, 1889 The Great Falls Townsite Company lists provisos associated with its donation of land for two Great Falls city parks. The city council was delighted to receive the donation [GFL, 1]. **Proclamation:** Delegates to the Montana Constitutional Convention will be elected on May 14, 1889—the convention will be held beginning

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July 4, 1889, at Helena [Governor B.F. White's Proclamation, GFL, 1].

April 23, 1889 Dr. E. Crutcher, a member of the newly-created Montana Board of Medical Examiners, announced the license approvals for six Great Falls physicians: R.P. R. Gordon, A.G. Ladd, E. Crutcher, A.F. Longeway, J.H. Fairfield, and Thomas J Reed [GFL, 1].

April 27, 1889 The Tribune reported that about 100 men were employed by Swanson & Company, the contractor for the Great Falls Waterworks project. All were employed digging the ditches needed for the water mains [GFT 3].

May 4, 1889 A Library Association meeting was held at the Townsite Company office on May 3. H. O. Chowen was elected Chairman, with F.B. Wilcox as Secretary. Chowen announced that Mrs. Paris Gibson interceded to ensure that the Townsite Company donated a lot on Second Avenue North and Third Street, to be used as a library. Others at the meeting included H.P. Rolfe, C.M. Webster, Reverend John Reid, Jr., Miss Rich, and Mrs. A.G. Ladd [GFL, 1].

May 7, 1889 **The Great Falls City Council began its work after city elections.** The members were: Fairfield, (Mayor), and Aldermen Clinton, Bridges, Hotchkiss, Hickory, Webster, Albrecht Johnson, and Gerin. [GFT, May 8, 3]

May 14, 1889 Elections for delegates to the MT Constitution Convention are held across the state. In Great Falls, T.E. Collins, Paris Gibson, And C. Webster are elected. [GFT, GFL, May 15]

May 25, 1889 The Great Falls Boulevard Association agrees to dedicate land 150 wide for a boulevard seven miles long, to plant trees, and bring the project to the Cascade County Commissioners for approval. Among those present were Paris Gibson, Judge Huy, Will Hanks, C.P. Downing, H.O. Chowen, H.F. Collette and H.P. Rolfe [GFT, May 25, 4].

May 25, 1889 Postmaster Taylor quickly and efficiently moved the Great Falls Post Office to its new quarters in the Boardman-Milner Block [GFT May 29, 1]

June 5, 1889 John K. Kennedy brought in several hundred head of cattle from Minnesota, via train. He bought land in Milk River country to raise hay for his cattle. J.F. Taylor brought two train loads (1100 head) of young steers from Utah; he took them to Teton country. Dan Flowerree brought in 5,500 from Utah, and Con Kohrs had 20,000 cattle on his range. Ease of shipment via train made these large transactions possible [GFT June 5, 1,3].

June 4,5, 1889 Johnstown Flood (Pennsylvania) was big news across the United States [GFT, GFL].

June 5, 1889 Republicans in Cascade County met to decide their candidates for Cascade County offices [GFL, June 5, 1,2,3]. State Republican candidates for office were also advertised.

June 16, 1889 Fifty carloads of sheep from Oregon reached Great Falls, for three Northern Montana woolgrowers. 2,000 head went to the Highwood area. Rice, the operator of the new wool compress at Great Falls, came to live there. The Tribune said that six Boston wool dealers were transacting business in Great Falls. Wool was big news in every newspaper edition. [GFT, 1].

June 21, 1889 Sarah Murphy, Great Falls seamstress, died, and her death was initially reported as mysterious. Her inquest revealed that she may have committed suicide—she was “enceinte”. She had come from Wahpeton, Dakota Territory in about February, and it was revealed that she had been hoodwinked by a married man (Charles E. Hinman) into a false marriage [GFT, 1; GFT 6/22/1889, 3-4; GFL 6/22/1889, 1; 7/2/1889, 4].

June 22, 1889 As reported in the *Tribune*, five bodies were found in the Judith River near Samples Crossing—two men, two women, and one little girl (surnames Briggs, Kurtz). They had been murdered. [GFT, 1,2,3]. Later, it was reported that they were from Helena, on their way to Maiden Mining Camp. They had been robbed, and their horses and wagon taken. Later still, Wilber was identified as their murderer, and was arrested, taken to the Cascade County Jail.

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June 23, 1889 Wilber hung himself at the Cascade County Jail [GFL, 1]. An inquest into Wilber's death was held, and results were reported on 6/23/1889 in *The Leader*. The *Tribune* reported testimony and results in its 6/26/1889 edition, along with a sketch of Wilber hanging in his cell [1, 2]. Later, it was reported that his body had been taken from his grave out at the local cemetery.

July 3, 1889 The *Tribune* reported that Baptists in Great Falls were building a church near the Methodist Church, on lots donated by the Great Falls Townsite Company. Organizers included: E. Bywater, J. B. Leslie, and W. M. Cockrill, Trustees; L.A. Winchester, Clerk; Nels E. Runsten, Treasurer. Lawler and others were appointed to a subscriptions committee [1].

July 5, 1889 Delegates to the Montana Constitution Convention in Helena convened. They were tasked with ensuring that a new Montana Constitution would meet the demands of statehood. Thereafter, the *Leader* and the *Tribune* produced frequent reports on the actions of the convention.

July 13, 1889 *The Leader* reported on the huge banquet held at the Park Hotel, honoring the delegates of the Montana Constitution Convention from Helena, and also honoring the Woolgrower Convention attendees in Great Falls. Broadwater's MCRR picked up the delegates and guests at Helena, conveyed them to Great Falls where they toured the Silver Smelter, Giant Springs, and the area, before the banquet [1].

July 31, 1889 *The Tribune* announced that the Great Falls water mains and water works had been completed in less than four months, and flowing... "from Prospect Hill to Black Eagle Falls, and from the Park Hotel to the farthest limits of Central Avenue..." (3).

August 7, 1889 *GFT* announced the death of Cornelius N. Hackshaw, who died near Belt when his horse fell on him, crushing him. He left a wife and five children under age 6. His brother-in-law was Pat Hughes, well-known miner. Cornelius' funeral at Belt was huge, conducted by Masons.

August 9, 1889 The *Great Falls Leader* contains a "full and correct list of officers and members of the Great Falls fire department, including Chief, foremen, secretary, treasurer, and Hose Companies 1 and 2 (1).

August 15, 1889 First day of voter registration for the October 1 Montana General Election. Registration occurred in county precincts set by commissioners.

August 17, 1889 The *Great Falls Leader* announced that the U.S. President, Benjamin Harrison, was a stockholder in the Great Falls Water Power and Townsite Company—and would vote by proxy (1).

August 23, 1889 *The Great Falls Leader* published **the proposed Montana Constitution** in its entirety (5-7). An article also announced the 11 Cascade County voter registry districts, and included the name of the local registry agent for each district (1). *The Leader* also noted that the Great Falls City Council had finally voted in favor of erecting a fire department hose house (1).

August 24, 1889 *The Tribune* announced that the town's new tennis court was ready for use, and even had seating available for spectators (4).

September 1, 1889 The Montana Smelting Company has big ads in both newspapers for furnace men and laborers at their Great Falls works. Pay is quoted at \$2.00-3.25 per day, with board being \$5.50 per week.

September 11, 1889 The Cascade County Licenses Report for the quarter ending August 31, 1889, is issued, appearing on p. 1 in the *Great Falls Leader*.

September 17, 1889 Voter registration closed in Montana. The *Great Falls Tribune* Sept. 18 reported the number of registrants for each precinct or area: Great Falls, 909; Lakes, 15; Ulm, 14; Sand Coulee, 270; Belt area, 163; Kibbey, 107; Sun River, 82; Cascade area, 159; Truly, 58; Chestnut area, 106...

September 18, 1889 *The Great Falls Leader* (5,6) again published the Montana Constitution in its entirety. It also

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announced that Great Falls Schools had 150 students in attendance, 50% more than the previous year.

September 23-25, 1889 Both newspapers engaged in bombastic political rhetoric, with vituperative accusations about various political candidates and their backers.

September 24, 1889 Young people in Great Falls expressed an interest in starting a high school, and the principal was amenable. The Headquarters Saloon moved to a location near the Commercial Hotel (*Great Falls Leader*, 4).

September 28, 1889 *The Tribune* has several small snips of news about the sudden start of building the new Manitoba railroad spur to Neihart and Barker. Contractors planned for 500 teams and 1000 men to be at work within a week. The Manitoba shipped in men and 15 teams with scrapers on the evening freight to Great Falls. Kirkendall established headquarters on Box Elder Creek, while W. H. Babcock was sent out to Sand Coulee to handle a special boarding house for railroad builders there (3).

September 28, 1889 The Great Falls Tennis Club announced plans for their first tournament (names of players supplied in *The Great Falls Tribune*, 3).

October 9, 1889 *The Tribune* listed newly-elected Montana legislators, county-by-county (2). *The Tribune* also announced that the B & M Smelter would be built in Great Falls, and a dam would be built (Black Eagle Falls Dam) (3).

October 9, 1889 Local papers announce that the Great Northern Railroad has been incorporated, combining several other railroad lines (*Great Falls Tribune*, 3). Later, the exact date of the beginning of business under that name was clarified; the Manitoba would officially become the GNRR on January 1, 1890.

October 14-16, 1889 Great Falls has a state-wide IOOF meeting, and it is closely reported in *The Leader*, over several days.

October 16, 1889 Both newspapers have frequent ads and mentions of the need for railroad builders on the new Neihart Spur. Workers pour in every day, and local people rent out their teams for work.

October 18, 1889 Two legal ads in *The Great Falls Leader* announce the incorporation of the Canada and Montana Railroad, and its intent to base the business in Great Falls. Incorporators are: __

October 21, 1889 Ira Myers and Maclay directed their crew to begin building a street car railroad down the center of Central Avenue, causing consternation for the City Council, as Myers-Maclay claimed a right to do so. By October 26, the City Council had asked for, and gotten a permanent injunction against Myers-Maclay, Judge Bach granting such relief to the City (*Great Falls Leader*, October 26, 1889, 1).

November 6, 1889 Montana granted statehood on November 5, as the 41st state in the United States (*Great Falls Tribune* 1,3). *The Leader* also carries stories about the President's Proclamation of Montana statehood in November 7-8 newspapers.

November 8, 1889 New county officials-elect are announced in the *Leader*: George B. Swan, Supt. Of Schools, J.T. Armington, Cascade County Senator; W. M. Cockrill, Clerk of Court; Joe Hamilton, Cascade County Sheriff; W. Kern, Cascade County Surveyor; Howard Crosby, Cascade County Clerk & Recorder; J. F. McClelland, Cascade County Treasurer; Douglas Martin, Cascade County Attorney; C. H. Benton, District Judge; Charles Wegner, Sebastian S. Hawkins, and S. N. Dickey, Cascade County Commissioners.

November 8, 1889 *The Leader* announces that Montana's Governor Toole has taken office.

November 16, 1889 *The Tribune* (3) announced that the B & M Smelter contract was signed in Great Falls at the Townsite office. The agreement also specified that the Black Eagle Dam would be built by September, 1890.

November 30, 1889 The Sand Coulee Coal Company payroll had about 450 employees (*Great Falls Tribune*, January 11, 1890, 6).

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December 10, 1889 *The Leader* reported that the Great Falls Public Schools had 175 students, with more students coming in daily. In addition, the MT (silver) Smelter was asking for a school for approximately 30 students (*GFL*, December 10, 1889, 4).

December 18, 1889 The Armington Townsite was being officially surveyed and platted (*GFT*). This was a direct result of the railroad line being built from Great Falls to Neihart.

December 18, 1889 The eight "missing" Democratic senators took their oath in Helena and were formally seated in the Montana Legislature (reported in the *GFT*, 1). During sessions on December 19-20, they refused to sit on committees or to vote (*GFL*).

December 20, 1889 An article on the front page of the *Leader* estimates the Great Falls population as about 3,000 people. Charlie Russell, cowboy artist, exhibited at least one painting at the Baptists' Exhibition, a Great Falls fund-raiser.



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