NEXT MEETING: JULY 10, 2021 VIA ZOOM



SUMMER 2021

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Greetings, Everyone! I hope this message finds you Healthy and Hale.

We only had a small number of people interested in attending in person for the July meeting, so we will do it on Zoom again. Hopefully, we will be able to resume in person meetings in October. These are trying times for all of us, but I believe we can make it through if we all stand together, 6 feet apart.

This is an Election Year, and we need a Nominating Committee, and nominees. If you would like to help, please contact any officers listed on page 9. All members are eligible to run for the various offices and we can use your help. Many of you have served in the past, but if you have not, remember for everything there is first time.

I look forward to seeing you at the next meeting. Thank you, Bob Scott, President

ELECTIONS JULY 2021

PLEASE support your Cornish Society by serving as **President**, **Vice President** (either North or South), or **Secretary** (see job descriptions below). Dot Huntley has agreed to continue as Treasurer, Bonnie LaDoe will continue in the Membership role, Mickey Sieracki will continue to monitor the website, and Alene Reaugh will continue to do the newsletter.

To all new members, we hope you will step forward to fill one of these positions. The term is for two years, and we get together three times a year so it is not a major commitment, but it is important to infuse new ideas, recruit new members and to support our **Cornish Heritage**.

Please **VOLUNTEER** for one of these positions.

President is responsible for day-to-day oversight, the preparation of meeting agendas, and shall preside over all meetings of the Executive Board and annual general membership meetings.

Vice-President shall assist the President in administrative duties and perform the duties of the President in the absence or inability of that officer to serve. The Vice-President shall be responsible for selecting and developing the program including speakers/trainers/or others as necessary.

Secretary shall record and distribute to the membership the minutes of each meeting. Minutes shall include verbatim all motions from the floor and results of those motions. The Secretary is responsible for ensuring the President's agenda includes all unfinished business or tabled motions until such time they are complete.



For more detail review the by-laws on our website www.nwcornishsociety.com

ANNUAL Meeting via ZOOM Saturday JULY 10, 2021 4:00 PM Pacific Daylight time A link will be forwarded to you the day before the meeting. Looking forward to seeing everyone.

Minutes of the March 6th 2021 Meeting

Once again, we met via Zoom and reportedly had 41 attendees. Our Speaker, Elizabeth who goes by the name of Karenza which is Cornish for "love", entertained all with her presentation of "The Cornish relationship to home, wherever that may be."

Karenza of Hireth Medicine reflects on "Hireth", a Cornish word with no direct translation to English, but known as "a longing for home, a place never yet known." Discussing themes such as the Cornish identity, the brave exploring nature of the Cornish people, and the intense, sometimes emotional, impact of "being at home" in more than one geographical place, sometimes continents apart.

Following the presentation was a short business meeting. The membership was reminded that the July meeting is the time to elect new officers and pay dues.

We asked that people come forward and volunteer to serve on the Board for the offices of President, Vice President (2 - one North and one South), Secretary, Dot Huntley advised she will remain Treasurer. Dot gave the treasure's report and the meeting was dismissed.

Please be thinking about volunteering for one of those positions. For this group to move forward, we need new and fresh ideas and new people in those positions. Please Support your Cornish Heritage so we can continue to get together as we have for the last 23 years.





19th Gathering of Cornish Cousins Speakers, Topics and Schedule *Note: The schedule is set to Eastern Standard Time Zone*

You will have to adjust the time for your particular time zone

Times are set with 15 minutes between speakers to allow for attendees to take care of drinks, eats, standing up and moving around and other activities.

There will be an introduction to the speaker before each speaker's presentation. *(Schedule times may change slightly closer to the Gathering)*

Friday, July 16, 2021 1:30pm EST **Welcome** 2:00pm EST

Gage McKinney, Keynote speaker, Author, Past President of the California Cornish Cousins, Lay Preacher

Forty Years of CAHS: Is Cornish Culture Safe? For forty years CAHS has assumed the challenge of promoting Cornish heritage and culture in North America. Our movement had shown all the signs of a neglected, minority culture struggling for survival, calling for a place among the nations and barely hanging on. We have made great strides for Kernow and Cor-nishness and its place, especially on the former frontiers of the United States, Canada and Mexico. Yet we must recognize our energy is largely spent. Did we do enough? And how can we encourage our descendants and compatriots to continue the mission of preserving our culture and making it known? Discussion & Business meeting

4:00pm EST Wesley Johnston, Family Historian; Masters Degrees in Mathematics & History; Author

Cornwall to Canada: Three Related Family Thicket Projects - St. Blazey Families, Cornwall to Canada Voyages, English Corners [Columbus, Ontario] Family thickets of multiple generations of inter-marriages were the reality of life for centuries, a landscape just as real to our ancestors as the terrain in which they lived. Putting all the families of a locality back together yields deep insight into their lives and the choices they made. This presentation looks at the family thicket of origin in St. Blazey, Cornwall, and the one of destination at Columbus, Ontario, as well as the passengers on the voyages that connected them and how the complexity of their inter-connected families is reconstructed into databases and web pages and analytical presentations.

6:00pm EST

Fisherman's Friends, video, 107 minutes—Based on a true story. Ends Friday session.

Saturday, July 17, 2021 11:15am EST **Welcome** 11:30am EST

Larry Hoffman, P.E. Mining Engineer Butte – Butte - Curse of Cornish Copper,

Savior of Miners: The mines of Cornwall, major suppliers of copper (and tin) to the world for over a century, were devastated by the discoveries of incredibly rich copper deposits in the United States. The price of copper and even tin dropped dramatically. The old mines could not produce at a loss and closed, throwing thousands of families into economic chaos. The only escape for many miners was to leave their families and beloved country, and emigrate to where the work was—in the United States. Hard as it was to leave centuries of tradition they found freedom they never dreamed of, working conditions far better than what they had taken for normal, and pay better than they could have imagined.

In return, they brought their mining technology and skills, as well as an incredible work ethic that benefitted the new mines far beyond their labor. All combined to give them the opportunity to share their bounty with family back home, where the income was spent in depressed communities.

12:45pm EST

Aubrey Jaap, Assistant Director of Butte-Silver Bow Public Archives

Butte's Cornish Community: Butte-Silver Bow Public Archives staff member Aubrey Jaap will discuss Butte, Montana's Cornish community. The Cornish taught the world to mine, and the mining city of Butte, Montana, is no exception. Roughly 2,000 Cornish miners made their way to Butte and soon sent for their families. They brought with them their traditions of food, music, and religion, established businesses and boarding houses, and formed close-knit neighborhood communi-ties. Jaap will also discuss the Archives' genealogical and manuscript collections and how archival resources can assist with historical and family research.

2:00pm EST

Samantha Felder, Junior at Grand Canyon University

Cornish Legacy in Idaho: In the picturesque, seemingly untouched, landscape of the Wood River Valley of Idaho, lies a dilapidated log cabin, known only to locals and the descendants of a Cornish immigrant who have kept its legacy alive for generation through oral tradition. With this presentation, we will explore the assumed and actual origins of this cabin, along with the research that has made these discoveries possible, including a collection of letters written by Richard Scoble, a Cornish immigrant from the late 19th century. We will also discuss the history of Cornish influence in Idaho, which has remained a relatively unresearched topic, along with a proposed project that will seek to preserve the heritage of notable communities in the area, including the Cornish.

3:00pm EST—Closing

CORNISH AMERICAN HERITAGE SOCIETY 19th GATHERING OF THE CORNISH COUSINS REGISTRATION FORM

Friday, July 16, 2021, 1:30pm EDT Saturday, July 17, 2021, 11:15am EDT Virtual in your own home or gathered safely with others

> We have 87 zoom connections - Please register early! Registration Deadline is July 9, 2021

> > **Cost per Zoom Connection \$25 each**

Please make sure your screen name on Zoom is a close match to your registration name on Zoom for attendance purposes.

(We need an email or a phone number that accepts "texts" to send you the link to the Zoom meeting.)

Name_____Email_____

Phone: (for texts or problems)

*Please check if you agree to have your name/email address to be included in the Gathering program _____

Send registration form and your check to:

CAHS 486 Plat B Road Sutherin, OR 97479

Or make payment with PAYPAL to: cornishamericanhs@gmail.com (direct link: https://paypal.me/CornishAmHS)

*PAYPAL will convert your currency to \$US

(please fill out and either send the registration form to the above address or email: dot97479@gmail.com)

For more information: Contact Carolyn Haines Email: hainesc@msu.edu Call: 517-694-0922 Text: 517-281-0062





Le Roi, Mine—Rossland, B.C. 1909 CORNISH MINES IN ROSSLAND, B.C. By Dale Matthews

In the early part of the 20th century, Rossland was a booming mining camp in the province's southern interior, just 10 kilometers north of the border from Washington state. In 1890 a couple of prospectors,

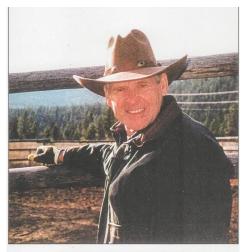
probably from Spokane, ventured north, not realizing they had crossed an unmarked border to discover gold and copper ore body and quickly filed claims. Underground mining began, adits opened, buildings erected, and the wild town began to fill up. Hardrock miners were hard to find, probably because of the gold rush in the

Klondike, Yukon. People came from many parts of the United States, Europe, and England forming hard rock personnel to go underground. The town was incorporated in 1897 when the boom was in full force. Miners of all ethnic backgrounds arrived; among them were the Italians, Yugoslavians, Welsh, Cornish, and others. The Cornish mainly came as the result of tin mine closures in Cornwall. Most Cornishmen were tin miners, and some were clay pit or coal miners. My grandfather worked in the clay pits, as did others who came to the U.S. and Canada.

My grandfather came from Treverben near St. Austell and my grandmother from Redruth. My

grandfather Joseph Matthews and William Hayden worked in Leadville, Colorado, before heading north to British Columbia. Coincidently they married the Roscorla sisters in Rossland. They were also from Cornwall. These families remained in Rossland, as did other Cornish families, and when the mines closed in 1929, many of them found work in the smelter in Trail, 10 kilometers down the hill on the Columbia River. So there exist Cornish names in our province with sir names starting with Pen, Tre, Pol, etc. Although I am a third generation in this country, I identify myself as a Cornishman and proud of it!

Note from Editor: In May 2014, my husband Jim and I traveled to British Columbia to meet for the first time my Canadian/Cornish cousins, Dale & Phyllis Matthews and Robert Owen & Janet Smales.



Dale Matthews

Dale Matthews was born in 1938 at Rossland BC. From an early age Dale preferred drawing and painting the mountains than to dig gold from them. He completed high school in Rossland before attending the Vancouver School of Art (now the Emily Carr Institute of Art and Design), receiving a degree in Fine Arts in 1961.

EMAIL RECEIVED FROM Bill Curnow <wjcurnow@kernow.com>

Dear Cornish Cousins of the Pacific NW

Some ... perhaps even many ... of your members may be familiar with Howard Curnow of St. Hilary, Cornwall from his visits in years past. His energy and enthusiasm had a good deal to do with promoting the Cornish heritage movement here in North America. Earlier this month I sent out communications advising those who know him that his health has become precarious. The Pacific Northwest Cornish Society should have been included in those communications, and I must apologize for the fact that it was not.

Earlier this month I shared news received from Elizabeth Curnow, Howard Curnow's wife, as to his current medical situation. Now I would like to update my earlier message by letting you know that Howard is presently out of hospital and in a nursing home at Penzance. He would very much like to be back in his St. Hilary residence, but the possibility of another seizure weighs in favor of close medical support. Your ongoing thoughts and prayers are most certainly appreciated.

I would also like to share news of a project that Howard has been working on for well over a year, a project that has received the remarkable energy and enthusiasm so characteristic of him. I'm now sending an update that announces news of an autobiography he has completed that will soon be published. When issued, the book will be well illustrated with scores of photos. A promotional piece with a few brief highlights from his life's story is on page 9.

Howard and I are distant cousins who have become close friends over the course of the past 30 years. During preparations for the

Grand Curnow Homecoming reunion held in Cornwall in 1990, I volunteered to assist with preparations for the event. The task that I took on was pulling together bits and pieces of Curnow family trees that he had collected from quite a few people during the course of his travels. That effort grew into the Curnow Family Tree Project that remains very active today. He and I have had a very rewarding partnership, and now I'm trying to assist his wife and editor with gauging the magnitude of interest in the book in which he has told the story of his life. We hope there will be significant interest, since printing more books (rather than fewer) will result in a lower cost per book and therefore a lower, more attractive price.

After promising to write a book review (see page 10) to help publicize Howard's autobiography, the editor sent a copy of the printed manuscript to me via the internet yesterday, 350 pages nicely illustrated with 90 photos, drawings, and maps. It's a "can't put it down" book, and I'm already at page 243. Howard is a gifted storyteller, and all of that talent is reflected in his writing. Time and again I've found myself laughing out loud while reading his stories. Some of them I heard him tell on multiple past occasions, and they have never failed to bring a smile. Suffice it to say I strongly believe that nobody who buys the book will be anything (continued on page 9.)



Could you ask your members to let you know whether they might be interested in purchasing a copy of Howard's book? We are not asking for firm commitments but simply a show of hands.

With best wishes for the ongoing success of Cornish Cousins of the Pacific Northwest, Bill Curnow



Cornwall, My Country

by Howard Curnow

Cornwall, My Country is a soon-to-be-released autobiography by an amazing man. In Howard Curnow's own words, the story of his life unfolds from his 1936 birth in St. Hilary and through his childhood on the farm during and after the war, his education, and his career. He has led the most remarkable and eventful life, much of it in the cause of preserving and championing the Cornish identity, history, and culture.

At the age of seven Howard Curnow hit the local Cornish headlines when he fell under a one-ton steel roller in a field on his father's dairy farm. Since then, he has never been completely happy when any further from Cornish soil! Here, Howard tells the story of his remarkable and eventful life, from early days as one of seven children on the farm in West Cornwall, including watching as German bombs fell on his St. Hilary birthplace, to his 25 or more visits to the USA and Canada where, on one occasion, he found himself branding a wild buffalo with red hot irons. He visited Australia, New Zealand, and even Cuba to promote Cornwall and meet local members of the Curnow family.

After leaving school and the farm, he spent time in the Royal Navy and, for his National Service, in the Army at NATO headquarters in Paris. Here his Cornish background was responsible for his being given pride of place at a dinner hosted by a Breton duchess for guests from 16 different countries. Between his military experiences, as a student in Birmingham he made two discoveries of historic significance and was also responsible for averting a potentially costly disaster at the Ince Power Station on the Wirral Peninsula of northwest England.

Returning to his beloved Cornwall as a qualified teacher, he used a hitherto overlooked Act of Parliament to establish a then unique program under which many of his students were given the benefit of work experience, now a national requirement for many youngsters throughout the country. Much later, he took a group of Cornish students, aged 10 to 18, to the 2009 Climate Change Conference in Copenhagen, where the TV news gave them the accolade of putting on "the best little show in town." On one visit to Westminster he sat, all on his own, totally unnoticed, in both the House of Commons and the House of Lords.

Over the past decades, nobody has worked harder than Howard in the cause of preserving and championing Cornish identity and culture; from organizing and hosting the "Grand Curnow Homecoming" of 1990 at the family farm, attended by 350 visitors from all over the world, to leading a "walk" to London on the 500th anniversary of the Cornish Protest March on London in 1497; from reviving Cornish traditions such as St. Piran's Day celebrations, to persuading Cornwall Council to fly the Cornish flag rather than the British over offices. In his "spare time" he built his own house on the family farm!

Howard Curnow's tireless efforts on behalf of Cornwall were rewarded in 1990 by his induction as a Bard of the Cornish Gorsedh.

Preserving a Pioneer Cornish Cabin in Idaho

By Samantha Felder Grand Canyon University

About 15 miles northeast of the historic town of Hailey, Idaho, lies an obscure cabin, known only to locals and the ancestors of its architect, like me. According to oral history, this cabin was believed to have belonged to James Smitham, a miner and my great-great-grandfather, who immigrated to the once bustling boomtown of Muldoon from Cornwall, at the end of the 19th century. However, as I sought to verify the origins of this structure, as part of a college assignment, my research revealed that this dwelling, which stands on the ancestral lands of various Tribes, may be one of the only verified Cornish buildings still standing in the state. With this knowledge, I created a public history proposal aiming to provide an educational experience that showcases the contributions of both these cultures to the formation of the region.

Like many places in the West, Idaho became a prime destination when gold was discovered in the Boise Basin. However, expansion of the industry into the Wood River Valley only occurred after the mixed Shoshone-Bannock Tribes, whose people had inhabited the land for more than 10,000 years, were forcibly removed and white settlers were given unfettered access. Among the newcomers, were hundreds of Cornish immigrants, who had left their homelands after the collapse of the mining industry. According to a collection of letters housed at the Kresen Kernow Archives, in Cornwall, James Smitham and his uncle, Richard Scoble, were two such immigrants to the town of Muldoon; though, this same collection indicates that it was actually Scoble who constructed the cabin, during his time managing two nearby mines.

In order to illustrate the rich cultural influences of the area, the project that I am proposing would be completed in two phases, including the construction of an interpretive trail leading to the cabin site and the restoration of the cabin.

The Interpretive Trail would be the portion of the project that escorts visitors on a groomed trail through the beautiful natural landscapes, abundant in this area. However, the highlight of this experience will be the signage that provides a unique insight into the history and culture of the multiple Indigenous Tribes who inhabited the area. Phase one will require the repair of an existing 3-mile route that has

been partially washed out and will directly connect Copper Creek Campground to the cabin. Though the proposed route is tentative, and a survey will need to be conducted to determine how much of it has been eroded, satellite images indicate that much of the original trail is still intact and will need minimal excavation.

The second phase, and potentially the most arduous portion of the project will be the restoration of the single room cabin to its original specifications, based on collected photographs. In order to establish the feasibility of this phase, experts in period carpentry will have to be consulted. As with the first phase, the area around the cabin will also include cultural signage about the Cornish, a topic especially relevant in Idaho where a majority of inhabitants self-identify as English.

While I am aware that this is a big undertaking, and as a college student I lack the availability to spearhead a project of this size, it is my sincere hope that readers of the article will see the value in pursuing it. With stunning landscapes strewed with mining day relics, campground amenities, and a network of trails, this project will have broad appeal and give Idaho an outstanding opportunity to not only pay respect to the communities that were forced from this land and their connection to it subsequently devalued, but also to educate on a community whose contributions have remained largely unexplored..

Editor's note: Samantha Felder is a junior at Grand Canyon University, pursuing a Bachelor of Arts in History for Secondary Education. One of the university's high achievers, she has been included on the President's List and nominated for prestigious academic organizations.

For a local history class, she created a proposal for a public history project, aiming to refurbish an historic cabin that holds great significance to her family. She discovered rich cultural influences which must be preserved, and also her own connection to the Cornish immigrants who helped shape the American West.



EMAIL: Dear Pacific Northwest Cornish Society,

I have found your contact details via a Google search, and I hope you don't mind that I get in touch. I hope that you and your members have been able to stay safe and well.

I am very privileged to live in the beautiful west of Cornwall, near to Redruth, and I have recently started a small business that I hope may be of some interest and help to your members. My business model is to **deliver flowers, potted plants or hand-painted stones to the resting places of people buried in mid and west Cornwall**, on behalf of those who live too far away to do this themselves, are challenged with mobility issues, or simply don't have time to make the trip. I take photos of the resting-place before and after the visit, and I send these (either by post or email) along with a short letter to describe the visit to the location, so that the customer who has requested the service feels a part of the process.

The cost of delivery also includes a donation to the funds of the churchyard in which the delivery is made or, if it is in a location looked after by the local Council, I make a donation to Cornwall Hospice instead. Carbon-emissions of the journeys I make are offset by supporting a local charity planting trees on Bodmin Moor. I am aiming to keep this a locally-focussed business that benefits Cornwall in various ways, not least in providing a service to the relatives/friends of those buried here.

There is more information on my website at: <u>www.attendservices.co.uk</u> including some blog-posts about local churches, to which I will be adding over the coming weeks.

I would be delighted to have the opportunity to be in touch with you to discuss how I may be able to make your members aware of my service: I can offer to write an article for your magazine, or create an advert (for which I would be willing to pay). And if there is any way in which I can help the Pacific Northwest Cornish Society from here 'on the ground' in Cornwall, please do not hesitate to let me know: it is wonderful that groups such as this one exist, to provide friendship and community to those with links to, or and in interest in, Cornwall! With best wishes, **Louise Hollick** @ www.exploremystory.org



grahamswindon@hotmail.co.uk <grahamswindon@hotmail.co.uk>

EMAIL:

Greetings from St Keverne on the Lizard.

I've just published **One Good Turn - a social history of St Keverne Parish**. At 545 pages the postage to USA would cost more than the book - but if any of your members have a connection to St Keverne they might be interested to read a synopsis.

Here's a link to "One Good Turn Vol1.pdf" in my Dropbox:

https://www.dropbox.com/s/0m5ejxsq64zpx4t/One%20Good%20Turn%20Vol1.pdf?dl=0



President VP North VP South Sec/Newsletter Treasurer Website Mngr Membership

Cornish Country Store

Our Cornish Country Store is open 24 hours online and three times a year live at our meetings. We have a good variety of items your Cornish cousins will love. Please check the website to see pictures of all these items: <u>www.nwcornishsociety.com</u> or you can place an order by emailing Alene Reaugh at <u>Softwalk2@yahoo.com</u> Sweatshirts and T-shirts are now available. You can also place orders with Café Press at <u>http://cafepress.com/pnwcs.</u> In addition, PNCS gets a commission on sales made through the website connection to Amazon.com.

Web site: www.nwcornishsociety.com

Officers

Robert "Bob" Scott bobkat2003@comcast.net Gordon Bennett, mjbgab@comcast.net ShaSha Alsdorf, cambridgect16@ftontier.net Alene Reaugh, softwalk2@yahoo.com Dot Hosking Huntley, dot97479@gmail.com Mickey Sieracki msieracki@msn.com Bonnie LaDoe, bladoe@aol.com

PNCS Meetings are held three times a yr

ST. PIRAN'S DAY CELEBRATION Puyallup, WA - First Saturday in March Portland, OR - Third Saturday in March

ANNUAL CORNISH PICNIC -FORT BORST Centralia, WA - Second Saturday in July

FALL MEETINGS Puyallup, WA - Third Saturday in Oct Portland, OR – Fourth Saturday in Oct

Pacific Northwest Cornish Society Application for Membership

Name:

Address:

City: State/Province

ZIP/Postal Code

Phone:

(____)____E-mail address:

Webpage:

Cornish Connections

This is a highly arbitrary list. Feel free to suggest other Cornish Connections by e-mailing the Editor

Cornish Global Migration Programme Collects information about Cornishmen and women who emigrated to England or elsewhere. www.cornishmigration.org.uk

Cornish Heritage Organizations

Federation of Old Cornwall Societies http://oldcornwall.org

The Cornish-American Heritage Foundation www.cousinjack.org

New Zealand Cornish Association www.busby.net/nzca/

The California Cornish Cousins www.califcornishcousins.org

Cornish Association of Victoria (Australia) www.cornishvic.org.au

Festivals and Events

Newport Celtic Festival and Highland Games 169 SW Coast Highway Newport, Oregon 97365 www.newportcelticfestival.com

Cornish Websites

Cornwall Connections A collection of links to all things Cornish. www.cornwallconnections.peeples.com

Cornish Global Migration Programme Collects information about Cornishmen and women who emigrated to England or elsewhere. www.cornishmigration.org.uk

myCornwall.tv myCornwall magazine (formerly Cornish World) Video and print resources seek to make a difference to Cornwall by creating entertaining, educational and thought-provoking content. http://www.mycornwall.tv

West Penwith Resources Links to resources concerning the far west end of Cornwall. http://west-penwith.org.uk/index.htm

General Genealogy

Washington State Archives Has 94 million records preserved, 29 million of which are searchable online. www.digitalarchives.wa.gov

Oregon State Archives Search for Oregon records on line. http://genealogy.state.or.us

Cyndi's List More than 290,000 links to genealogy sites. The founder spoke at the March 2011 PNCS meeting. <u>www.cyndislist.com</u>

FamilySearch Information from Salt Lake City and elsewhere, plus videos on how to get started on your genealogy. www.familysearch.org

Statue of Liberty/Ellis Island Foundation Look up your ancestors who came through New York between 1892 and 1924, free. www.ellisisland.org

Bureau of Land Management Search for land patent records by name and state. www.glorecords.blm.gov

Tacoma-Pierce County Genealogical Society Meets the second Tuesday of each month, September through May at Bates Technical College, 1101 South Yakima Avenue, Tacoma, WA 98405 www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~watpcgs/

BYU Idaho Special Collections Western states marriage records, oral histories and more from Brigham Young University Idaho. http://abish.byui.edu/specialCollections/

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