

GEORGE CALDERWOOD

LAKE COUNTY

JUNE 5, 1994

"CHICO"

EUGENE, OR

PETE FRENCH

B-1909 LAKEVIEW, OR.

THOMAS FOSTER CALDERWOOD

BEATRICE

CALDERWOOD

Grandfather when he was 15 caught a boat from Maine to Panama then hiked across and caught a boat to San Francisco during the gold rush of 1849. Apparently his mother died when he was young and his father remarried and he didn't get along with his new mother. As far as I know he never returned to Waterburyville, Maine. He made more money running a bar and being a bouncer than during the gold season.

Ed "How did the Calderwoods end up in Lake County?"

George "Well he was a member of the CA. volunteers during the Civil War. They never got out of the area. They fought Indians during the Civil War. He was mustered out 1866. (Shows me paper)"

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George was (is) last Calderwood

" Mustered out June 27, 1866, James E. Calderwood  
Stationed in Fort Bidwell. He stayed  
there and I think he ran a saloon.  
Gamblers. He drifted up into Warner  
Valley and took land at the base of  
Warner Hart Mt. where it joins the high  
desert country."

Ed "Was that by the old stone bridge  
crossing?"

George "Yes. I crossed that stone bridge  
and it scared me to death."

Ed "Its all covered with brush and  
sticky weeds now."

George "I dont know anything about  
that but I do know the bridge was a  
floating bridge. It was anchored at both  
ends. Rise and fall during the spring  
rain. The bridge would vary according  
to the water level. In order to cross  
there and make the bridge usable year  
around they had to rise. It had an

apron on both sides that hinged, when you would go out there at high water the horses would have to jump up into the wagon. Put their front feet on the apron and then cross the bridge. Deep potholes there. Probably ten feet. Anyway the horses would get on the other end and their weight would make the bridge go down. We would have to put everything on the seat of the wagon so the water went all over the floor (wagon).

Ed "Was the actually stone bridge there when you crossed?"

George "Yes. It's still there. The approaches to the bridge on both sides were rock."

Ed "I was there in 1990 but you couldn't go across because it was so untrustworthy."

George "Was the bridge there?"

Ed "No. Just brush, stones and rattlesnakes."

George "Use to be a lot of rattlesnakes."

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Ed "Who settled at what was called  
Crooks Bridge and Hart Lake, who  
settled near Old Fort Warner?"

George "Gota piece of paper?"

(George drawing map of his relatives  
land holdings. James Calderwood  
had 5 sons. all homesteaded around  
Adel, Hart Mt. and just east of Old  
Fort Warner) (we are looking at his  
map and explaining)

Ed  
Harry  
Thomas  
? James  
? } SONS OF JAMES

George "When they made that a Federal  
Reserve (Hart Mt. Antelope Refuge) the government  
stated they wanted my uncles place and  
he didnt want to sell. He died during  
that time probably from alcohol. My youngest  
uncle Ed Calderwood took over when  
Harry died. He fought the government for years  
clear up until World War II and finally

had to sell. This all open range land. Before that he had married a widow, Stella McDade of Burns. She is the one in the photo sitting on Pete ~~French~~ French's lap. They moved out to Fields and started buying land out there."

Ed "I see. That's were Jim McDade (74 I contacted him) comes in."

George "Ya. He's Stella's son from a previous marriage. Only son."

Ed "You ever hear of a Vickers?"

George "Ya. Bill Vickers. I know where he is right now."

Ed "Buried out there by Quano Lake."

(George talking about graduating from 8<sup>TH</sup> grade)

George "We were riding down there by the Shuck Ranch (Quano Lake) one time