

❖ PARDON'S PROGENY ❖

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the Tillinghast
Family In
America.***

***“Be Just and
Fear Not”***

Our winter message, a time of year when things are normally quiet, and we rest. But your Tillinghast Society, Inc. Board has been busy. In January, we held our Annual Meeting; the Officers will remain the same. Bruce Tillinghast, President - Peter Allen, VP – Kim Tillinghast, Secretary – and Jane T Roberts, Treasurer. Nikki T Lanford stepped down from the Board and Tom Eisenbraun has filled her spot.



**Bruce Tillinghast,
President**

The weather this year in the Northeast is best described as being “schizophrenic”! Temperature swings go from 60 degrees one day to 30s the next, the mild to wild swing resulting in freeze and thaw/freeze and thaw can be dangerous to plant material. We are seeing a few spring bulbs poking their noses up, a good sign. We hope that our fall plantings survive this schizophrenic winter weather.

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Our projects for this year are to get the bench installed, move forward with the “waysign” that will give visitors a brief history of this unique burial ground – the last of many small family plots as well as some bio info about our common ancestor, Pardon Tillinghast. We also want to install more plantings on the left side of the path.

A delightful note, the Benefit St neighbors and businesses have organized to work to make improvements along Benefit St to maintain the charming quality the street is known for. The organization is *Mile of History Association* – <https://www.mileofhistory.org>. They are so pleased with the improvements we have made that they have made a \$1,000 grant to us to help with furthering our landscaping on the left side of the path and would like to contribute to annual maintenance.

We have made significant progress in needed repairs and making improvements but there is still lots to be done. We want to consider setting up a perpetual maintenance fund. **We**

(Continued on page 6)

The Tillinghast Family and the Education of the Deaf

By Lynn Campbell

I first ran into the Tillinghast name when I was researching Euphemia McGann Terrill, the grandmother of my mother-in-law's cousin, and her family's heavy involvement with the beginnings of education for the deaf, most particularly in Canada but also elsewhere in North America.

Euphemia's father, Joseph Barret McGann, a teacher who emigrated from Ireland, to is credited with having opened the first school for the deaf in Ontario, Canada. Four of his five children took up this form of teaching, working in four provinces in Canada and in Idaho, Montana, Mississippi, and Washington in the United States, often founding and being superintendents of many of these institutions.

I found that the Tillinghasts were also closely involved in deaf education, for several generations in fact, and that many of them were equally as active and as well known as the McGanns. Not surprisingly perhaps, the world of deaf education being quite small "back then", I found other marriage links between the families. The most obvious connection of course, was the marriage of Hilda Watson, a grand-daughter of Joseph McGann, to Edward Stansbury Tillinghast. However, there also proved to be a connection to my husband through Pardon Tillinghast's wife Lydia Masters Tabor. Pardon's wife's parents were Phillip and Lydia Masters Tabor, who were my husband's eight times great-grandparents.

Samuel Willard Tillinghast was the first Tillinghast that I found connected to education for the deaf. Samuel was born in Uxbridge, Worcester County, Massachusetts, on the 29th of February 1796, the son of Paris Jenckes Tillinghast and his wife Elizabeth Walker Pearce. Samuel was the great-great-grandson of Pardon Tillinghast who came from England to America in the sixteen hundreds.

Not much is known about Samuel's personal life except that he was educated at Brown University in Providence, Rhode Island, and that he earned his living as a commission merchant, with family and business ties in New England, New York, North Carolina and Georgia.

Samuel married Jane Burgess Norwood at her home at Poplar Hill Plantation in Hillsboro, North Carolina and the couple had twelve children, of whom two, David Ray and Thomas Hooper, were deaf. Both these incidences of deafness were blamed on childhood illnesses, but later marriages seem to have brought in the gene for congenital deafness which resulted in so many of the Tillinghast children being born deaf.

I do not know where, or even if, Samuel underwent training in the art of educating deaf children, but he began teaching his sons himself and later also became a teacher at the School for the Deaf and Dumb in Morganton, North Carolina.

David Ray Tillinghast, the younger of Samuel's two deaf sons, and by far the most famous, was born on the 14th of September 1841 at Fayetteville, in Cumberland County, North Carolina. He was said to have become deaf following an attack of whooping cough. A letter from Jane Norwood Tillinghast to a Thomas Tillinghast, dated 1845, says that "David often talks about Tommy", confirms that he was not born deaf.

David received a good education in New York, possibly at Gallaudet, and then began teaching at the New York School for the Deaf. The school had been opened in 1818 with the Rev. Abraham Stansbury as its first superintendent and a Miss Mary Stansbury as one of its teachers. David taught there from at least 1862 to 1868.

His stay in the north was contrary to the wishes of his family, but, although he loved his family, they were of the opinion that, being deaf and mute, he could not possibly have any career other than that of being an obedient son, staying at home and living what he saw as a more or less useless life. He was determined to prove them wrong.

He stayed in New York as the country edged nearer and nearer to the Civil War, and his slave-owning family teased him, but with a distinct "edge" to the teasing, that if he was not careful his long stay in the North might just make an abolitionist of him. His father died in 1861 and his mother in 1862, but he either would not or could not return south. Letters flew back and forth between them all, making him aware of what the War

(Continued on page 3)

(Continued from page 2)

was doing to his family, including the loss of all their slaves following the end of the War, and he regularly sent them money. Finally, in 1865, he made a visit home, intending to look for work there and relocate, but he failed to find it and returned north again.

In 1869, on the 10th of August in Baldwinsville, New York, David married Caroline Kirkland Stansbury, a deaf girl he had met at the school in New York. Caroline, born on the 29th of September 1843, was the daughter of George A. and Evelynna (Minard) Stansbury, and it more than likely that she was related to the two Stansburys mentioned before who had been involved with the school in its early days.

Also in 1869 David obtained a post as a teacher at the North Carolina Institution for the Deaf, Dumb and Blind and he and his new wife left New York for North Carolina. Having been home four years before, the state of the South was not new to David, but Caroline was appalled and more than a little fearful about what her new life was going to be like.

David and Carrie boarded at the School for the first few years of their marriage, before buying a house in Raleigh, about half a mile from the school. It was here that their children were born, one of whom, Edward Stansbury Tillinghast was born deaf.

David and Carrie offered a home to David's brother Willard while he looked for employment. Then one of his hearing sisters, possibly Emily, moved in with them, and in 1871, his brother Joseph came to stay when he was released from the insane asylum in Raleigh. All three of these siblings had normal hearing, but they quickly learned to sign, and Joseph and his sister both went on to teach in deaf schools. In 1874, probably at the urging of David, his brother Thomas gave up his previous employments and joined David's household, also working as a teacher at the School.

In 1916 David retired from his positions as teacher and chaplain, having been at the North Carolina School for fifty years. However, he continued to campaign for the deaf and dumb, touring and lecturing all over the country, particularly in the south, for another twenty-six years, most often accompanied by his daughter Mary who interpreted his words for their audiences.

His wife Caroline died on the 23rd of August 1921 and David, who had been visiting St. Petersburg in Florida for some years as a "snowbird", moved there to live in the home of his daughter Malinda. David died there on the 5th of September 1942.

Thomas Hooper Tillinghast, the other of the two deaf sons of Samuel Willard Tillinghast, was born on the 25th of August 1833 at Fayetteville, North Carolina, USA.

He seems to have spent much of his early life living with his grandparents, William and Robina Hogg Norwood, at their home in Hillsdale, North Carolina, and it was this grandmother who saw to it that Thomas was taken as a pupil at the School for the Deaf at Staunton, Virginia. His classes at the school included vocational training as a book binder, a profession which Thomas followed in Fayetteville, North Carolina, until well after the Civil War.

Some time around the end of the Civil War his brother David financed him in the setting up of an orchard, but in 1874 Thomas abandoned this project, joined his brother in Morganton, North Carolina, and began working with David teaching deaf students in the school there

On the 19th of December 1877 Thomas married Mary Adelaide Clontz in Buncomb County, North Carolina. Mary, born in 1849, was deaf. She was the daughter of Jacob and Susan Clontz, who were both deaf and she had eight brothers and sisters, all of whom were deaf.

Thomas and Mary had at least two children. I have been unable to ascertain whether either of these children was deaf but, given their background, it is quite probable.

Mary died on the 17th of December 1877 and Thomas on the 2nd of February 1907, both in North Carolina.

Edward Stansbury Tillinghast, the son of David Ray Tillinghast and Caroline Stansbury Tillinghast, was born on the 27th

(Continued on page 4)

(Continued from page 3)

of October 1873 in North Carolina.

Although he was deaf, Edward received a good education, graduating from Davidson College in North Carolina in 1891. He was appointed as Salutatorian, which means that, as having the second highest academic ranking in his class, he gave the welcoming address to the audience and students at his graduation ceremony.

Upon graduation he began teaching in schools for the deaf and was to move around the country a considerable amount. He was in Wilmington, North Carolina, from 1891-1892, Missouri from 1892-1893, Washington from 1893-1894, and superintendent at the Montana school from 1894-1900.

A "Report for the State Auditor" of Montana, dated 1896, listed both Edward and Hilda Beatrice Watson as teachers, so one can surmise that this was probably the place where Hilda and Edward met.

They were married on the 7th of August 1899 in San Francisco, California. Hilda, the daughter of James and Cecilia McGann Watson, had been born on the 9th of May 1875 in Ontario, Canada. At the time of the marriage, according to the clipping from a Boulder, Montana, newspaper, Cecilia's home was at the deaf school in Vancouver, Washington state, where she was a teacher and where her father was superintendent.

Edward and Hilda had two children, both of whom became teachers of the deaf.

Edward was teaching in Kentucky from 1900-1905, in Washington state again from 1905-1906, and was superintendent in Oregon for the sixteen years from 1906-1922. It was while he was in Oregon that the school moved from a small site out in the countryside to its present location in Salem.

He left Oregon to become superintendent in Missouri from then until his retirement. Edward's wife Hilda died on the 9th of January 1945 and Edward in 1946. Both had been living in the home of their daughter Hilda in Tacoma Park in Maryland.

Joseph Alexander Tillinghast, brother of Edward, was born on the 25th of April 1871. He himself was not deaf, nor can I find that he had any deaf children of his own, but he followed what was becoming a family tradition, doing graduate work at Gallaudet University and then becoming a teacher.

He worked in Colorado and South Carolina, and was then appointed superintendent of the school for the deaf in Boulder, Montana. He found time to lecture, and was in lecturing in Ireland in 1898 when his daughter Robina was born. Joseph died on the 25th of February 1944 and is buried in Spartanburg, North Carolina.

Edward Watson Tillinghast, the son of Edward and Hilda Watson Tillinghast, was born on the 21st of January 1909 in Salem, Oregon.

His father was at least the third generation of the Tillinghast family to be involved with education for deaf children, and his mother was the third generation in her family to do so, as she was the grand-daughter of John Barrett McGann who is credited as being the originator of education for the Deaf in Ontario, Canada. So it is no surprise to find that young Edward, not deaf himself, also took up that career.

He obtained degrees from the University of South Dakota (summa cum laude), Harvard business school, and then went on to Gallaudet in Washington, DC, in 1934 to obtain a Master's degree in specialised training for teaching the deaf, then returned to Berkeley, California, to teach there for six years.

While he was living in California he married Adele Sheppard Blattner on the 11st of September 1932 at Council Bluffs, Iowa. They had one child, born in Alameda, California on the 28th of November 1938, a son who they named Edward William Tillinghast.

In 1941, at the age of thirty-two, he was selected as the superintendent of the School for the Deaf in Tucson, Arizona - "the youngest superintendent of any deaf school in the country".

(Continued on page 5)

(Continued from page 4)

Edward was to spend the rest of his working life there. While he was in charge of the school he saw the enrollment grow from eighty-five to four hundred and sixteen, and the staff increase from thirty-four to more than two hundred. When he arrived in 1941 there were three major buildings on the campus, and by the time of his retirement in August of 1974 there were twenty-nine. Edward died on the 5th of February 1985, in Tucson.

Obituary for David Ray Tillinghast St. Petersburg, Florida.

Just nine days before he would have celebrated his 101st birthday David Ray Tillinghast, retired teacher and deaf and dumb evangelist, died at 8:30 o'clock last night at his home at 1819 1st Avenue South.

He had toured North Carolina for many years after his retirement as a teacher and lecturer to various communities for the deaf and dumb.

In April 1926 he delivered a lecture in St. Petersburg which was interpreted by his daughter Mrs. A. B. Tillinghast.

Mr. Tillinghast was from Spartanburg, where he taught for forty-seven years. He was born on 14 September 1841 and has been lecturing for the past twenty-six years.

He had resided in St. Petersburg as a permanent resident for the past 21 years and had been a winter visitor for several years before that.

He was a member of the Episcopal Church.

Survivors include two daughters, Mrs. Melinda Tillinghast, this city, and Miss Mary Tillinghast, Spartanburg, South Carolina, and two sons, Joseph A. of Spartanburg and Edward S. of Indianapolis, Indiana.

The body will lie in state in the Hayward Chapel after one o'clock this afternoon. The funeral party will leave for Spartanburg Monday morning for funeral services and burial.

(Continued from page 1)

need your financial help to maintain our family legacy! PLEASE consider a tax-deductible donation – very easy – and a link to donate can be found at: <https://www.tillinghastsociety.org/our-history/> Any amount is helpful.

**Tax exempt donations to
The Tillinghast Society
May be sent to:
Jane Tillinghast Roberts
355 Blackstone Blvd., Apt. #220
Providence, RI 02906**

OUR ANNUAL CLEAN UP – SCHEDULED FOR SATURDAY, APRIL 30th @ 10am to 12noon. Just bring gloves and a rake if you can. Coffee, water and pastries provided.



A PASSING – Our very own “Butch Cassidy” – Gerald Tillinghast recently died at 75 years of age. He was a gregarious, dapper man who had a notorious reputation as a mob enforcer. For a full story: <https://www.providencejournal.com/story/news/local/2022/02/21/gerald-tillinghast-dies-rhode-island-mob-hitman-patriarca-crimetown-podcast/6879619001/>

We thank Lynn Campbell and Cara Davis-Jacobson for articles contributed this month. As always, we welcome feedback and responses to unanswered questions in our articles. As your editor, I am especially pleased to have contributions from new writers. I encourage you to tell your unique Tillinghast story to be recorded in these pages. A copy of Pardon’s Progeny goes to Rhode Island Historical Society and is archived there along with genealogy work done by Todd Lawrence. You will also find back issues on the Tillinghast Society, Inc. website.



Barbara L. Tillinghast
Davis, ca. 1950

My Mysterious Tillinghast Grandmother

(Pardon-Pardon-Phillip-Benjamin-Henry-Wilbur-Charles
D-Wilbur D-Barbara)

by Cara Davis-Jacobson

I never knew my paternal grandmother. Some time after my paternal grandfather's death in 1950, six years before my birth, my father became estranged from his mother and only brother. When I started asking questions about our family history when I was a teen, he was elusive. Finally, in his 90th year, after my mother's death, he parted with a few details: her name was Barbara Lucinda Tillinghast, she didn't like my mother, she wrote cruel letters that he eventually ignored and threw in the trashcan even before opening, she liked dogs and had seven at one point, she made beer and wine (which, as a high school student, he stole, replacing what he took with water), she was a printer and a typesetter like he and his father were, and she was the first woman member of the International Typographical Union, or so he said. He gave me her faded purple ITU ribbon. How or why he kept that memento of her and none other, not even a photo¹, I will never know. Perhaps it was the one thing they had in common?



Believed to be Barbara L. Tillinghast Davis, ca. 1905

¹ All photos in this article are courtesy of my since-passed uncle and his still-living eldest son. Only the 1950 photo of Barbara is verifiable by full description or by a living knowledgeable family member. All others are captioned with educated guesses based on partial photo notations, photo imprints, and photo-dating techniques.



Barbara Dorn Tillinghast,
ca. 1888

Barbara Lucinda Tillinghast was born in 1889 in Bloomer, WI, to Wilbur DeVail Tillinghast (1864-1897) and Barbara Dorn (1866-?, henceforth "Barbara D" to spare confusion.)² Records indicate that they had five children together.³ My grandmother's younger siblings were Charles (1892-1960), Ruth Edna (1893-1977), Esther H (1895-1962), and William/ aka Robert (1898-?). A sixth-grade report card dated September 6, 1904, obtained from my cousin, shows that Barbara was an excellent student and was living in that year in Eau Claire, WI, at 419 Chippewa Street. I have

no other records from her youth, apart from the 1900 Federal Census, which shows the family living at 2207 Central Ave. in Minneapolis, MN. At

that time, Barbara D. is already a widow and is "cooking" for a living. Was it her widowhood and a cooking job that took her to Minneapolis? I have found no evidence of other family in MN apart from their own, so it is hard to know. Times must have been challenging given their circumstances. By 1905, Barbara D. is back at 633 Lake Street in Eau Claire, WI, though there is no record of whether the children are still with her.⁴



Clockwise from top left: believed to be Barbara L, Esther, Ruth, Robert

² Online publication - Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2011.Original data - "Wisconsin Births and Christenings, 1826–1926." Index. FamilySearch, Salt Lake City, Utah, 2009, 2010. Index entries derived from digital copies of original and compiled.

³ 1900 United States Federal Census. Year: 1900; Census Place: Minneapolis Ward 9, Hennepin, Minnesota; Roll: T623_769; Page: 9A; Enumeration District: 103. T623, 18. Online publication - Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2004.Original data - United States of America, Bureau of the Census. Twelfth Census of the United States, 1900. Washington, D.C.

⁴ Ancestry.com. U.S., City Directories, 1822-1995 [database on-line]for Wisconsin, Eau Claire. 1905. Tillinghast, Barbara (widow Wilbur T). Lehi, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2011. Tragically, as I just learned, Barbara D. passes away from consumption (tuberculosis), as had her husband eight years prior, at that same Lake Street address on 21 Feb 1906, at the age of 38, orphaning her children: William/Robert, age 8; Esther, age 11; Ruth, age 13; Charles, age 14; and my grandmother Barbara, age 17.

At age 18, brother Charles is back in Minneapolis as a trunk maker living in a boarding house.⁵ He is listed below the Reverend Allen R. Tillinghast, superintendent of Universalist churches, the only other Tillinghast in the directory that year. Might they be related? Charles eventually joins the military⁶, later settles in Minneapolis⁷, spends at least ten years in a mental hospital from 1930⁸ through 1940 in Stearns, MN, and passes away in 1960 while in the care of a VA Hospital in Illinois.⁹



Believed to be Ruth, ca.
1915

Sister Ruth, in 1910, age 17, is a servant in the George Klement family household¹⁰ in Richfield, WI, and is employed as a nurse in a soldier's home in Minneapolis in 1917.¹¹ She marries a Greek immigrant, Peter Pappandrikopulous in 1919¹², and by 1930 is

⁵Ancestry.com. U.S., City Directories, 1822-1995 [database on-line]for Minneapolis, MN, 1910. Tillinghast, Chas. W. Lehi, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2011.

⁶National Cemetery Administration; U.S. Veterans' Gravesites Source Information:National Cemetery Administration. U.S., Veterans' Gravesites, ca.1775-2019 [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2006. Original data: National Cemetery Administration. Nationwide Gravesite Locator.

⁷1920 United States Federal Census [database on-line]. Year: 1920; Census Place: Minneapolis Ward 4, Hennepin, Minnesota; Roll: T625_834; Page: 13B; Enumeration District: 86. Ancestry.com. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2010. Images reproduced by FamilySearch. Original data:Fourteenth Census of the United States, 1920. (NARA microfilm publication T625, 2076 rolls). Records of the Bureau of the Census, Record Group 29. National Archives, Washington, D.C..

⁸ 1930 United States Federal Census [database on-line]. Year: 1930; Census Place: St Cloud, Stearns, Minnesota; Page: 18B; Enumeration District: 0061; FHL microfilm: 2340865. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2002. Original data:United States of America, Bureau of the Census. Fifteenth Census of the United States, 1930. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, 1930. T626, 2,667 rolls.

⁹Ancestry.com. U.S., National Cemetery Interment Control Forms, 1928-1962 [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2012. Original data:Interment Control Forms, 1928–1962. Interment Control Forms, A1 2110-B. Records of the Office of the Quartermaster General, 1774–1985, Record Group 92. The National Archives at College Park, College Park, Maryland.

¹⁰1910 United States Federal Census [database on-line]. Year: 1910; Census Place: Richfield, Wood, Wisconsin; Roll: T624_1742; Page: 7B; Enumeration District: 0203; FHL microfilm: 1375755 Lehi, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2006. Original data:Thirteenth Census of the United States, 1910 (NARA microfilm publication T624, 1,178 rolls). Records of the Bureau of the Census, Record Group 29. National Archives, Washington, D.C.

¹¹Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin, City Directory, 1917.

¹² Per a conversation with my father in 2009. I have no documentation for this marriage yet.

divorced and living in Los Angeles County, CA.¹³ Her death comes in 1977 in Ventura, CA, and she is buried in the renowned Forest Lawn Cemetery in Glendale as Ruth E. Tillinghast, having reverted to her maiden name.¹⁴

Sister Esther in 1910 is a servant in the Olsen home in Richfield, WI.¹⁵ She marries Gerhard Gustav Johnson, a Swedish immigrant, sometime before 1918¹⁶, bears two sons, Gerhard Edward and William Robert¹⁷ within two years, and lives in the Minneapolis, MN, area at least until 1944. However, she dies 24 June 1962 in San Bernardino, CA. Hopefully the upcoming release of the 1950 census will help me determine when she moved west.



Believed to be Ruth and Esther, ca. 1910

Brother William Robert (also seen in records as Robert Dyer) has been hard to track. At the age of 12, in 1910, he is living with an older couple, Joseph and Elizabeth Hardy, on a farm in Lima, WI.¹⁸ I have found no relation there yet. When he registers for the draft in 1918, he has

¹³1930 United States Federal Census [database on-line]. Year: 1930; Census Place: Los Angeles, Los Angeles, California; Page: 9A; Enumeration District: 0097; FHL microfilm: 2339871. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2002. Original data:United States of America, Bureau of the Census. Fifteenth Census of the United States, 1930. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, 1930. T626, 2,667 rolls.

¹⁴Social Security Administration; Washington D.C., USA; Social Security Death Index, Master File. Source Information Ancestry.com. U.S., Social Security Death Index, 1935-2014 [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2014. And Ancestry.com. Web: California, Find A Grave Index, 1775-2012 [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2012. Original data: Find A Grave. Find A Grave. <http://www.findagrave.com/cgi-bin/fg.cgi>: accessed 24 January 2013.

¹⁵1920 United States Federal Census [database on-line]. Year: 1910; Census Place: Richfield, Wood, Wisconsin; Roll: T624_1742; Page: 7A; Enumeration District: 0203; FHL microfilm: 1375755. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2010. Images reproduced by FamilySearch. Original data:Fourteenth Census of the United States, 1920. (NARA microfilm publication T625, 2076 rolls). Records of the Bureau of the Census, Record Group 29. National Archives, Washington, D.C.

¹⁶ Per conversation with my father, Bruce E. Davis, and extrapolating from census and children's birth records.

¹⁷ One of whom, Gerhard, my father recalled, visited my uncle in the San Francisco Bay Area in about 1960 and claimed to have a genealogy done back to the 1600s that he wanted to share. My father declined to meet with him, unfortunately, and my uncle did not keep a copy of the genealogy, alas.

¹⁸1910 United States Federal Census [database on-line]. Year: 1910; Census Place: Lima, Pepin, Wisconsin; Roll: T624_1731; Page: 12A; Enumeration District: 0149; FHL microfilm: 1375744. Lehi, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2006. Original data:Thirteenth Census of the United States, 1910 (NARA microfilm publication T624, 1,178 rolls). Records of the Bureau of the Census, Record Group 29. National Archives, Washington, D.C.

come west to cowboy country and the city of Pendleton in eastern Oregon,¹⁹ to work for the city waterworks. He lists my grandmother ("Mrs. H. W. Davis") in Baldwin, Michigan, as his nearest relative. In the 1920 Federal Census, he has made his way south to Kern County, CA, and is working among a long list of laborers for the huge cattle raising corporation that dominated California at the time, Miller and Lux.²⁰ Robert then seems to drop from view. I continue to search for what happened to him after 1920.

I have found no documents yet for my grandmother's whereabouts between the 1904 report card and the birth of her first born child in 1912. Nor have I been able to locate a document verifying the time and place of my grandmother's marriage(s). I do know that by 1911²¹ my grandmother is married to Herbert Wallace Davis (HW), owner and publisher of the Lake County Star, a newspaper based in Baldwin, Michigan (Pleasant Plains Township), where she worked alongside her husband as a typesetter and printer, work rarely conducted by women during those days. HW divorced his first wife, Natalie Winnifred Falconer on 12 July 1911²², so one can surmise that HW and Barbara's marriage took place after that date. It is likely HW pursued the divorce specifically for the purpose of remarriage, as his first child, Frans Austin, was born nine months after the divorce on 3 April 1912.²³ A second son, my father, Bruce Edison, is born on 22 March 1919. Grandmother continues to run the paper for decades after HW's death in 1950, and passes away in 1978, the first born and last to pass among her siblings.

¹⁹Registration State: Oregon; Registration County: Umatilla County Draft Card: T. Ancestry.com. U.S., World War I Draft Registration Cards, 1917-1918 [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2005. Original data:United States, Selective Service System. World War I Selective Service System Draft Registration Cards, 1917-1918. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration. M1509, 4,582 rolls. Imaged from Family History Library microfilm.

²⁰1920 United States Federal Census [database on-line]. Year: 1920; Census Place: Township 5, Kern, California; Roll: T625_100; Page: 5A; Enumeration District: 98, TWP 5 (part), all south of a line extending from the S W corner of Sec 31, T 27 S, R 23 E running due east to the S E corner of Sec 33, T 27 S R 25 E. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2010. Images reproduced by FamilySearch. Original data: Fourteenth Census of the United States, 1920. (NARA microfilm publication T625, 2076 rolls). Records of the Bureau of the Census, Record Group 29. National Archives, Washington, D.C.

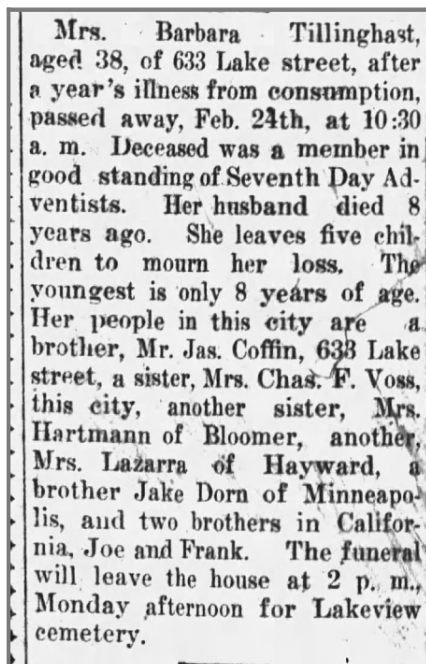
²¹ Per conversation with my father, Bruce E. Davis, and extrapolating from census and children's birth records.

²² Michigan Department of Community Health, Division for Vital Records and Health Statistics. Ancestry.com. Michigan, U.S., Divorce Records, 1897-1952 [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2014

²³ Ancestry.com. U.S., Social Security Applications and Claims Index, 1936-2007 [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2015.

And so we reach the end of my Tillinghast grandmother's tale. Or do we? Time and further research will tell!

Post-script: It is my hope in writing this article that I will be able to connect with others who may know more about my grandmother and her family and our small branch of the vast Tillinghast tree. If any of these people's stories or images are familiar, please contact me via the Tillinghast Society (OFFICIAL) Facebook page.



Mrs. Barbara Tillinghast, aged 38, of 633 Lake street, after a year's illness from consumption, passed away, Feb. 24th, at 10:30 a. m. Deceased was a member in good standing of Seventh Day Adventists. Her husband died 8 years ago. She leaves five children to mourn her loss. The youngest is only 8 years of age. Her people in this city are a brother, Mr. Jas. Coffin, 633 Lake street, a sister, Mrs. Chas. F. Voss, this city, another sister, Mrs. Hartmann of Bloomer, another, Mrs. Lazarra of Hayward, a brother Jake Dorn of Minneapolis, and two brothers in California, Joe and Frank. The funeral will leave the house at 2 p. m., Monday afternoon for Lakeview cemetery.

As if to attest that our research is never done, I just came across the attached obituary²⁴ for Barbara D. today as I send this off for publication in *Pardon's Progeny*. My genealogy wheels are spinning again! The obit answers some questions, hints at more, and provides more names and relationships to research as I try to fill in the many gaps in my knowledge of my mysterious Tillinghast grandmother's life!

²⁴ Leader-Telegram; Publication Date: 25 Feb 1906; Publication Place: Eau Claire, Wisconsin, USA; URL: <https://www.newspapers.com/image/239436976/?article=73288c02-5640-458b-8b36-8909de44f76d&focus=0.16131617,0.74715805,0.29462603,0.8987253&xid=3355>. Source Information: Ancestry.com. U.S., Newspapers.com Obituary Index, 1800s-current [database on-line]. Lehi, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2019.