BAKER COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
QUARTERLY NEWS
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DEDICATION CABIN SITE "FORT SUMTER" July 7

The dedication of the site of the first cabin built in 1862 by five men from the South will be held at 1 P.M. Sunday, July 7th. The site is about one-fourth of a mile from Cracker Creek along the road toward Granite.

The placement of the stone and dedication was originally scheduled for Ocober 28, 1984, but the snow flew and the winds were icy cold, making that date impractical. It was determined this July 7th date to be appropriate in its conjunction with Sumpter Valley Days. This is the first marker placed by the Baker County Historical Society since 1968.

Rev. Martin Lowell of the Community Baptist Church will offer the Invocation. Ken Alexander, Brooks Hawley and Society members will give brief statements. Mike Reagan, of the U.S.F.S. will have the tap log of the cabin for viewing and examination.

The tap log is the uppermost log in the wall supporting the roof of a structure. This log is more interesting as it has the five hole where the pegs were driven to hang their clothes.

Alice Warnock has written,"Sumpter: Saga of First Cabin and Origin of the name". Copies of the article will be given to those attending the dedication.

The project has been under the diligent leadership of Sudie Boyce and the suggestions of Ken Alexander.Field work was done by Mary Oman. Permission of the land owners,Max and Betty Castle was obtained. Myron Woodley found the quality granite stone which was transported to LaGrande for lettering.

(Cont. to page 2, col.1)

MUSEUM SUMMER SPECIAL: INDIAN ARTIFACTS ON EXHIBIT

The 1985 Season of the Oregon Trail Regional Museum is featuring the Indian Artifacts from Silas Allen's Collection. The exhibit includes bone, wood and stonetools; baskets, pictures of an archeological dig, and literature pertaining to the field. The display will be held through September in the Adler Exhibit Hall.

(Another item on loan from Silas is a pencil sketch portrait of Pug, Bill J. Robinson.)

Combined with the artifacts from the Cavin Collection, the gifts from Dr. Harry C. Smith,of Wilsonville other items on loan from By Rarey and Bruce McMillan, and the stone tools of the Society's Collection, the Silas Allen Collection provides an impressive feature display for the 1985 Season.

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MUSEUM VISITORS ON INCREASE

At this writing, there have been 2173 visitor in the Museum since November 1,(fiscal year). This figure includes bus loads of students from school in Boise, Beaverton, Brogan, Huntington, Burnt River; classroom groups from the Baker schools, the wives of the Volunteer Firemen, and a T.M.& O. tour bus from Lubbock,Texas en route to Alaska.

The total visitors during the 1982-1983 year was slightly over 4100. With Baker's summer activities and events in July and August, and the increase of tourists stopping to visit, it might be safe to estimate over 4500 for this year.

MEMBERSHIPS: CLASSIC VALUE!
P.O. Box 214, Baker, Oregon 97814

Hall family for over thirty years.

Mavantine Rusk Lubbes the granddaughter of George W. and Sarah Jane Hall; her mother was Birdie Hall Rusk. It is through the thoughtfulness of her sisters-in-law, Vesta Holm of Auburn Wa. and AdelinePiazza of Royal Oak,MI to make the gift of several items of the Lubbes estate to the Museum.

The photo album has a music box in its base. A photo album stand with a drawer in its base, the Christening dresses of twins George Hall Rusk and Sarah MavantineRusk, framed pictures of Birdie holding her 3 mo. old twins, their baby shoes, the volume of HISTORY OF BAKER, GRANT, MALHEUR AND HARNEY COUNTIES are among the items included in the Lubbes Estate gift. Two other it

Two other items aroused our feminine fancy. Two elborately embroidered cloth containers, "Corsets", with floral decorations,(to enhance the item's contents of unmentionables a more pleasing sight in the clothing chest?)

Two unframed, enlarged photos of Birdie Hall show her sitting in the yard at Bourne feeding a squirrel in her lap, and the other shows her in a sports dress holding her fishing pole and the fish.

In doing Accession work in the Museum, a person can become delightfully close and familiar with a family. It is your editor's opinion that soon after the strychnine murders and the hanging of Spanish Tom in Auburn, Sarah Jane had much to do with George W. Hall's resignation. She wasn't about to lose her handsome husband!

1. See page from the Family Bible
2. The Auburn Papers in the Museum
3. Hiatt, Thirty-One Years- p.47
4. John Daly Papers, Museum Library

* Frances(Birdie)Rusk b. September25, Copper City, California;d.January20 1960, Baker, Oregon

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MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORMS ARE ENCLOSED IN THIS ISSUE. Please try to mail in your renewal before October 1.

"Twilight and Evening Star..."

RODNEY E. MOURA

SARAH MAVANTINE LUBBES
Vesta Holm
Adeline Piazza

BETTIE WARNER
Over sixty of her many friends gave gifts in Memorial.

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SCOUT COLLECTION RETURNS

Baker printer, Jesse Smurthwaite, was a pioneer of Boy Scout leadership for sixty-five years. The memorabelia of his devotion to Scouting and Baker's youth has been on display at the Scout Headquarters in Kennewick. On June 5, the Smurwaite presented the Collection to the Oregon Trail Regional Museum and the people of Baker and Baker County.

The memorabelia ranges from the Silver Beaver Award, which honored him in 1940, to a hand-carved wooden link chain given to Mr. Smurthwaite by one of his devoted Scouts.

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OREGON HISTORICAL SOCIETY'S CENTURY FARMS

The Matthew K. Fisher, 1879, Farm belonging to Orville and Helen Fisher; the Thomas Boyer,1882, Farm, NelsonC-C; the James McNutt,1883, Farm-Con and Beth Rowen; and the 1884 John Trimble homestead-Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Trimble, have been qualified by the Oregon Historical Society to receive designation as Century Farms, 1985.

The Andrew P. Greener, 1877, Bessie Greener place in Pine Valley also adds to the growing list. The awards presentation will take place in late summer.