

IDAHO STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

REFERENCE SERIES

ALBERT H. ROBIE
1830's-July 26, 1878

Number 596

1981

Albert H. Robie was born in the 1830's, reportedly in Genessee County, New York. He came to Washington Territory in 1853 with Isaac I. Stevens, who had been appointed Territorial Governor, Superintendent of Indian Affairs for the territory, and leader of the northern group of the Pacific Railroad survey. Robie seems to have served under Stevens in various capacities in the 1850's, including quartermaster for the Oregon and Washington Volunteers and sub-agent in charge of the Indians in The Dalles area. Robie was also with Stevens during the 1855 Walla Walla Council with the Indians.

In the 1860 Census, Robie is found farming in Walla Walla, Washington. In 1860 or 1861, he moved to Lewiston and ran a sawmill. He may have also started a sawmill in Idaho City in 1862, and then come to Boise in 1864. Alexander Rossi, who had worked with Robie in Lewiston and possibly Idaho City, was his partner in a mill on Shaffer Creek near Boise. Robie established a ranch on Dry Creek in Ada County, and in 1876 he began raising stock on a ranch in the Steens Mountain area of eastern Oregon. According to his obituary, his death on July 26, 1878, at Dry Creek resulted from the hardships he suffered while pursuing Indians that had attacked his Oregon ranch.

Robie was reportedly married to a daughter (perhaps named Martha or Albertie) of mountain man and Nez Perce ally, William Craig. According to Robie's obituary, he and his wife had five children.

Publications--450 N. 4th Street, Boise, ID 83702--208-334-3428