

# WASHINGTON HERITAGE REGISTER

## A) Identification

Historic Name: **Union City Masonic Cemetery**  
Common Name: Union Pioneer Cemetery  
Address: End of E Wondervue Drive  
City: Union County: Mason

## B) Site Access (describe site access, restrictions, etc.)

The Cemetery sits south of State Route 106. Traveling east of SR 106, take E. McReavy Rd south to E Wondervue Dr. Turn east onto Wondervue, a small dirt/gravel road and proceed to the end.

## C) Property owner(s), Address and Zip

Name: Union City Masonic Temple Corp. (Charles K. Smith, Sec).  
Address: 61 N Gull Place  
City: Hoodspport State: WA Zip: 98584

## D) Legal boundary description and boundary justification

Tax No./Parcel: 322232-13-60010  
Boundary Justification: The boundaries encompass all of the current parcel that is associated with the cemetery

## FORM PREPARED BY

Name: Charles K. Smith  
Address: 61 N Gull Place  
City / State / Zip: Hoodspport, WA 98548-9671 Phone: 360-490-8437

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## E) Category of Property (Choose One)

- building     structure (irrigation system, bridge, etc.)     district  
 object (statue, grave marker, vessel, etc.)     cemetery/burial site  
 historic site (site of an important event)     archaeological site  
 traditional cultural property (spiritual or creation site, etc.)  
 cultural landscape (habitation, agricultural, industrial, recreational, etc.)

## F) Area of Significance – Check as many as apply

- The property belongs to the early settlement, commercial development, or original native occupation of a community or region.
- The property is directly connected to a movement, organization, institution, religion, or club which served as a focal point for a community or group.
- The property is directly connected to specific activities or events which had a lasting impact on the community or region.
- The property is associated with legends, spiritual or religious practices, or life ways which are uniquely related to a piece of land or to a natural feature.
- The property displays strong patterns of land use or alterations of the environment which occurred during the historic period (cultivation, landscaping, industry, mining, irrigation, recreation).
- The property is directly associated with an individual who made an important contribution to a community or to a group of people.
- The property has strong artistic, architectural or engineering qualities, or displays unusual materials or craftwork belonging to a historic era.
- The property was designed or built by an influential architect, or reflects the work of an important artisan.
- Archaeological investigation of the property has or will increase our understanding of past cultures or life ways.

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## G) Property Description

The Union City Masonic Cemetery is located about 1/4 south of SR 106 off of McReavy Road in a heavily wooded area just above the community of Union on Hood Canal. The site is relatively flat and deeply forested with overgrown trees and brush. Currently there are 34 headstones in the cemetery. The markers are a variety of stone types and sizes as well as shapes, and are in various conditions. Some have signs of repair work, others are clearly replacement markers based on the death date and the style of headstone. Some markers hold multiple names, but family plots are not identified on the ground.

## H) Significance

The Union City Masonic Cemetery is historically significant for its direct connection to the early pioneer settlers of Hood Canal who featured greatly in the history and development of the region. While the history of establishment of the cemetery is unclear, it holds some of the oldest burials in Mason County dating back to the 1870s and the is the final resting place of some of the areas most significant settlers.

The beginnings of community of Union City began in 1858 when merchants Willson & Anderson, established a prosperous trading post along the shore of the Hood Canal. Logging pioneer John McReavy platted Union City on Hood Canal's south shore in 1889. Soon dozens of mills in the area sent timber to the booming California goldfields and lumber for the construction of the Panama Canal. The area's logging operations worked at an unprecedented scale to supply the expansionist ethos of Manifest Destiny and there were big plans for the small community.

Dreamers saw Union City (later shortened to Union) as a logical terminus for the transcontinental railroad. In fact, three railroads produced plans to serve the little settlement, which boosters touted as the "Venice of the Pacific." A hotel, wharf, sawmill, and store were construction, and the area was heralded as the ultimate destination for wealthy families in the Northwest. A construction crew from the Union Pacific Railroad had just landed to begin work when the Panic of 1893 scrapped all progress and development of the city stalled.

A new dream emerged, this time of recreation. Hunting lodges, an luxury vacation

destinations for the eastern and Seattle elite, pushed Hood Canal's development slowly forward as a resort playground for fisherman and families in the pre WWII years.

Frank Pixley, the nephew of a San Francisco politician and newspaper publisher, brought California gold rush money up the coast into Hood Canal with the notions of building a new San Francisco founded in art and wealth. "Pix" as Pixley became known, purchased much a John McReavy's Union City plat. Eventually his holding extended from Dewatto to Tahuya, and from Union City to Alderbrook. He named his empire "Yachthaven", and moved his family and all his belongings to the Hood Canal area.

It was under this early development that the first burial ground was located at Bald Point, on the opposite side of the canal from what would become the community of Union City. Reportedly it was abandoned due to its distance from the community; at times it was found to be impractical, due to wintery storms which at times were hazardous for smaller boats.

A new burial ground was then located on the south side of present Highway 106 on the hillside across from the Union City Hotel (later called the Stumer Hotel). For reasons unknown, reportedly that cemetery was abandoned around 1893. Some reports indicate the Union City Masonic Lodge established a new cemetery (the nominated site) in 1895.

For reasons unknown, the internments were moved to the new cemetery which was located southeast of the community on the flat plateau above the water, deep in the forest. The oldest of these burials was Andrew J. Kelly, whom had passed away in January of 1874.

Specific legal documents regarding the cemetery are limited to a 1947 the quit claim deed transferring the site of the cemetery from Edna Rae Johnson to the Union Masonic Lodge No. 27 for \$10.00. An oral history of long-time area resident and Mason, Dess Haines, noted that the cemetery was deeded to the Masonic Lodge by Ed McReavy (John McReavy's Brother) after he was given his fifty year Masonic pin (date unknown). Other reports indicate that the present cemetery site was leased by the Masons from the McReavy family.

Over the years the cemetery fell into disrepair and vandalism ensued. The lodge has subsequently had some of the head stones replaced, fixed others and cleaned up the cemetery. Currently there are 34 remaining headstones in the cemetery. A 1982 survey noted 38 markers. The markers are a variety of stone types and sizes as well as shapes. Some markers hold multiple names. Several prominent families are buried there. These include the Eells, Dalby and Purdy Families.

The current markers at the cemetery include the following. Where available, a brief significance is provided.

1. Anderson, William - b. unknown d. Sep. 18, 1888
2. Bain, Elizabeth Parkinson - b. 1849 d. Mar. 26, 1889
3. Burnell, Lina Lee - b. Sep. 16, 1881 d. Aug. 28, 1882
4. Carman, George - b. Dec. 25, 1843 d. Jan. 27, 1926
5. Carman, Sarah Ann Burnes - b. 1843 d. Jun. 5, 1919
6. Champlin, Charlotte - b. unknown d. Jul. 5, 1897
7. Combs, Aaron R. - b. Mar. 3, 1829 d. Apr. 13, 1921
8. Cruise, Richard - b. unknown d. unknown
9. Dalby, Edwin Justus - b. 1885 d. Dec. 28, 1945  
Edwin Dalby was fluent in Chinook Jargon and assisted Edmund Meany and Edward Curtis with ethnography work in WA. He was a widely known waterfront reporter and for more than two decades served as the marine editor of the Seattle Post –  
Intelligencer.
10. Dalby, Ethel Isabella Morgan - b. Jul. 5, 1893 d. Jul., 1980  
Wife of Edwin J. Dalby.
11. Eells, Rev. Myron - b. Oct. 7, 1843 d. Jan. 3, 1907  
Early Washington missionary and ethnographer, author of History of Indian Missions on the Pacific Coast (1882). Son of Indian Missionary Cushing Eells. His collection of more than 1,600 books, papers and artifacts formed the nuclei of Whitman College's library, archives and museum. Eells moved to the Skokomish reservation in 1874, where his brother was an Indian Agent.
12. Eells-Noah, Sarah Maria Crosby - b. Oct. 16, 1853 d. May 8, 1938  
Wife of Rev. Myron Eells.
13. Franz, George - b. 1874 d. Jul. 8, 1943
14. Hauptly, Louisa A. Reed -b. Nov. 28, 1861 d. Jun. 13, 1898
15. Helmer, Horace Eugene - b. Jul. 23, 1869 d. Aug. 12, 1891
16. Helmer, Pvt James Horace - b. Jun. 18, 1831 d. Dec. 31, 1900  
Civil War Veteran. Private in C 41 Regiment unit, and Sargent , Company B of the 2nd Wisconsin Volunteer infantry - Union Army.

17. Helmer, James Spencer - b. May 21, 1872 d. Sep. 19, 1893
18. Jacobson, Charles - b. unknown d. May 14, 1906
19. Kelly, Andrew J. - b. Feb. 4, 1835 d. Jan., 1874  
Oldest known burial in cemetery.
20. Latham, Archie - b. Apr. 3, 1887 d. Jan. 1, 1893  
Son of Henry and Mary Latham.
21. Latham, Leslie - b. Mar. 25, 1889 d. May 27, 1890  
Daughter of Henry and Mary Latham.
22. Latham, Mary Purdy - b. Feb. 24, 1864 d. Mar. 23, 1897  
Daughter of Franklin and Emily Purdy.
23. Latham, May - b. Mar. 31, 1896 d. Apr. 3, 1896  
Son of Henry and Mary Latham.
24. Leighton, Charles W. - b. unknown d. Feb. 14, 1890
25. McGinnis, Angus - b. Aug. 22, 1850 d. 1883
26. Morgan, Henry Cook - b. 1890 d. Feb. 20, 1940  
Well known Seattle florist and popular vocalist featured on KOMO radio station.
27. Morgan, Minne C Meyer - b. Dec., 1861 d. Feb., 1951  
Mother of Henry C. Morgan, an early Seattleite whom Morgan Street was named. For many years she maintained a flower shop in Pikes Place Market, selling roses she grew on acreage she owned in the Rainier Valley.
28. Mullen, John - b. 1845 d. Mar. 19, 1919
29. Purdy, Emily Kirkland - b. Aug. 25, 1845 d. Sep. 9, 1889  
Wife of Franklin Purdy.
30. Purdy, Franklin C "William"- b. Jan. 4, 1827 d. Mar. 5, 1898  
Appointed as the first Postmaster at Union City but died before taking office. Frank Purdy was one of the first residents of Sawamish (Mason) County - arriving with Thomas Webb in 1853. He settled in Skokomish Valley in 1854. Purdy Canyon and Purdy Creek are named for him.
31. Purdy, James L. - b. 1866 d. Aug. 18, 1952  
Son of Franklin and Emily Purdy.
32. Ross, William J - b. 1832 d. Jan. 2, 1910

33. Skelly, John - b. unknown d. Aug. 3, 1902

Lumber worker and camp foreman. Died at Providence Hospital, Seattle of Pneumonia.

34. Stumer, Henry E - b. Feb. 18, 1860 d. Mar. 5, 1934

Former Seattle and Alaska laundryman. Owner and operator of Hotel Stumer which was advertised as the finest summer resort in the State of Washington with rates of \$2.00 a day. His wife (Irene Ann) is buried at the Masonic Cemetery in Tumwater. His son, Harold M., was the founder of Alderbrook, and is also buried at the Masonic Cemetery in Tumwater.

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## I) Documentation

Xerox and attach any information or evidence that supports the property's significance.

**Written Sources** (*books, articles, newspapers*):

[www.historylink.org](http://www.historylink.org)

[Ancestry.com](http://Ancestry.com)

[Find-a-grave.com](http://Find-a-grave.com)

**Oral History/Interviews:**

## J) Map and Photographs

*Attach copies of historic maps or photos if available, and current photos ( 5 x 7 B & W). Include a current map – appropriate U.S.G.S. map and parcel map – with the location of the property and its boundaries clearly marked. (see instructions)*



# TWANA TRS

Lot 2, Sec. 32, Twp. 22 Range 3

Scale 1"=100'

COPY

OFFICIAL











01/20/2008



01/20/2008



01/20/2008



01/20/2008



Purdy Family Headstones:  
Franklin, Emily & James



**HOOD CANAL, June 15, 1898.**

DIED, at Union City June 13, Mrs. Louise A. Reed Hauptly, wife of Jacob Hauptly, aged thirty-six years. She was born in Missouri, in November, 1861, and came to this State the next year.

In 1880 she was married, living at first at Seabeck, until about 1886 when she came to Mason County, where she has lived ever since, either near or at Union City. She leaves a husband, two daughters and two sons; also her mother, Mrs. Newman of Elma and two brothers Clarence Newman, and Charles Reed near Eima, and a sister Mrs. William Early of Shelton. She was buried yesterday, the funeral being a large one. All of these were present when she died except Charles Reed.



01/20/2008

# EDWIN J. DALBY, NEWSMAN, DIES

Edwin J. Dalby, widely known waterfront reporter and for more than two decades marine editor of The Seattle Post-Intelligencer, died December 28 in a Seattle hospital.

Mr. Dalby, who had retired a few years ago, was a member of a pioneer Washington family. Since his retirement he had lived at the family residence near Union, on Hood Canal. He is survived by his widow, three sons and a daughter.



01/20/2008

Mrs. Henry Latham, wife of County Commissioner, Henry Latham, died at her home at the Purdy place, Skokomish river, Tuesday night, March 23rd, of bowel troubles. Her illness had been of short duration, and Dr. Wells, who was called over last Sunday, prescribed and left her improving. Tuesday afternoon she was taken with severe pains and died that night. Mrs. Latham was the daughter of the well-known old pioneer, Franklin Purdy, and was born in Mason County thirty-one years ago. She leaves a sorrowing husband and three young children aged 12, 5 and 3 years. The remains were interred in the cemetery at Union City yesterday afternoon, the funeral being attended by many of the old friends and relatives of the family.

**Latham Family Headstone:**  
Mary, Archie, Leslie & May





Headstones with Masonic symbols



01/30/2008

HISTORY OF  
**INDIAN MISSIONS**  
ON THE INDIAN COAST  
OF CALIFORNIA, WASHINGTON AND TEXAS  
BY  
REV. MYRON EELLS  
Member of the American Bible Society, California  
WITH  
AN APPENDIX  
BY  
MR. G. H. ADAMS, D.D.  
PUBLISHED BY  
THE AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY, NEW YORK  
at New York, 1847-1848.



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