



Herbert Samuel Schell

April 12, 1899 -
April 4, 1994 (94 years)
Lot 589 2W

- Pennsylvania Dutchman, born near Reading , PA
- Attended the Berks County rural schools, graduated from Bernville High School
- Graduated from Muhlenberg College in Allentown, PA
- Master's Degree from Columbia University (NY) in 1923
- Taught high school in PA and NJ until moving to Vermillion to teach at USD in 1925.
- Married to Mary Senour in 1926 and they had two sons James Samuel (1930) and Allan Herbert (1931)
- Taught American History for 43 years except for 1928 through 1929 when he obtained his Ph.D. at the University of Wisconsin.
- Retired in 1969 and according to one estimate he had taught history to some 19,000 students.
- Department of History Chair (1946 –1955)
- Director of the Graduate School (1936-1952) then Dean of the Graduate School (1952-1964.)
- After retirement he continued to serve as the University archivist.
- Authored South Dakota's definitive history book, *History of South Dakota* in 1961. This book is known to generations of SD students.
- Author of numerous other articles and books including the *History of Clay County, South Dakota*, published in 1976.
- In 1976—awarded the “Will G. Robinson Memorial Award” for service to South Dakota history.
- In 1978—inducted into the Western Heritage Hall of Fame.
- In 1983—inducted into the SD Hall of Fame and chosen for the inaugural “South Dakota Cowboy and Western Heritage Hall of Fame Writer of the Year Award.”
- In 1989 Mary passed and Herbert followed 5 years later while living near son James in Atlanta, GA.



Gertrude Belle (Walker) Shaw

Oct. 12, 1904 -
Dec. 23, 1966 (62 years)
Lot 353 4E

- Born in Vermillion to Thomas R. & Sarah (Harris) Walker
- 2nd youngest with 7 siblings; Ward, Warren (died of accidental poisoning at 2), Agnes, Alice, (Hazel) Marguerite, Jennie Mae, and Ruth.
- Very musically talented and graduated from the University of South Dakota in 1928
- Two years after Edwin H. Shaw, Jr., Ph.D., prominent biochemist came to USD to teach in the medical school, they were married on June 12, 1929
- Three children: (Gertrude) Jean (1930), Mary Jane (1932), and William (1936)
- Gertrude played violin and viola in the University orchestra for 46 years
- Member of the Daughters of Colonial Wars, D.A.R., Civic Council and American Association of University Women;
- In 1952, her daughter, Jean (Eastman School of Music in NY) performed a cello solo at the Old Settler's Picnic.
- The Shaw family were members of St. Paul's Episcopal Church where William served as an acolyte, Edwin was a lay reader and Gertrude served on the altar guild.
- Gave lessons in harpsichord and knitting in her home
- Monthly recitals including her children, were held in their home – by invitation only – attendance was expected!
- A perpetual student and took classes throughout her life
- Karen Lipp shared a pie baking story where the pie dough was handled roughly and after pounding the crust with her rolling pin repeatedly, declared that she didn't 'know why her pies never turned out!'
- Gertrude and Edwin had a stormy marriage with reported outdoor nocturnal pursuits in their night clothes!
- Determined to NOT ever be reconciled with Edwin and was adamant that no one try to 'get them back together.'
- The Shaws divorced Dec. 28, 1965
- The small library in St. Paul's Church houses her collection of books.
- She was quite a believer in loud “Amens” at the end of prayers, so AMEN, Gertrude!

Thanks to the
Bluff View Cemetery (est. 1882)
Board of Directors
for providing refreshments
and use of the chapel.

The mission of the Clay County (SD) Historical Society is to bring together those people interested in the history and prehistory of Clay County and adjacent areas.

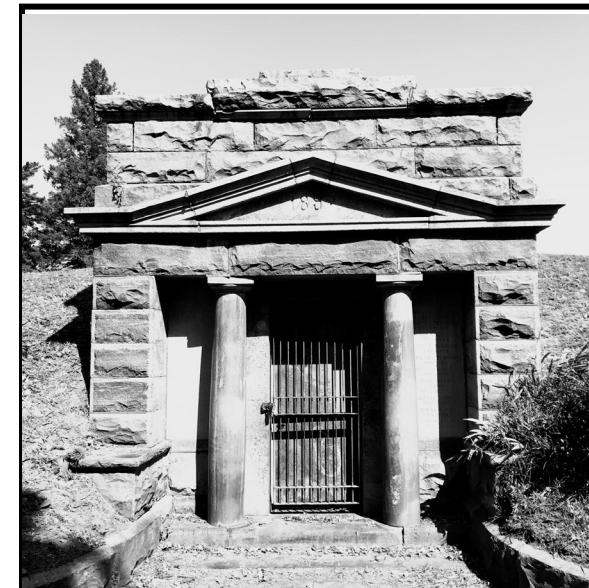
CCHS Yearly Membership

\$25 Individual
\$40 Family
\$75 Institutional
\$250 Lifetime

The Austin-Whittemore House
(home of the Clay County Historical Society)
15 Austin Street, is open
Monday-Wednesday-Friday
10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
or by appointment.



CLAY COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.
605-624-8266 • claycohistory@yahoo.com • www.cchssd.org



The Clay County
Historical Society
presents

Spoken History Cemetery Tour

“A County of Culture”

Monday, October 14, 2019
5:30 pm

Bluff View Cemetery
Vermillion, SD



George Willard “G.W.” Collins

August 20, 1869 -
Oct. 22, 1939 (70 years)
Lot 868 2W

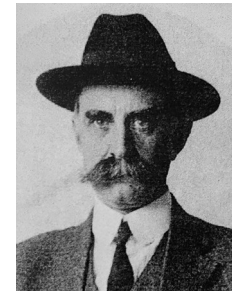
- Born to Rev. E.C. and Charlotte (Cook) Collins in Elk Point, Dakota Territory, the youngest of four brothers; Joseph, Edward (EE) and Herbert. Father passed when GW was an infant (1/2 sister-Adelaide)
- Started school at Elk Point then graduated from Vermillion High School
- At 11 he received his first German coronet and by 15, he was part-owner and publisher of the “Elk Point Courier” newspaper
- Attended USD where he organized the first university band in South Dakota.
- Attended the College of Dentistry at the U of Michigan.
- Was in demand as a cornet soloist which paid his way through dental school.
- From 1892 to 1894 he was on the faculty and organized and director of the first band at the University of Michigan
- Graduated in 1894 with his doctoral degree in dental surgery
- Married Marguerite Loss on June 14, 1894, in Flatrock, MI, prior to returning to Vermillion
- Organized Vermillion’s first orchestra and was a prominent feature of the Chautauqua schedules for 1895 and 1896.
- In 1900, was presented a gold coronet by the grateful university and townspeople
- Automobile enthusiast and formed an automobile club (July 1910) to promote a movement for better roads.
- Received recognition as a long time board member and past-president of the SD Dental Association
- Was an ardent Mason, being post master, a member of the Scottish Rite, an El Riad Shriner and Grand Commander of the Knights Templar for the state of SD from 1920 to 1921.
- Loyal devotee of the Methodist Church in Vermillion and directed its choir for more than 45 years until the day he passed.
- Father of Dr. (Gerald) Ralph, Stella Lucille- passed at 2 - and (Edward) Lowell.



Oscar Howe Mazuha Hoksina

(Trader Boy)
May 13, 1915 -
Oct. 7, 1983 (68 years)
Lot 141 1E

- Born on Crow Creek Reservation, SD, to George Tikute and Ella (Not Afraid of Bear) Howe
- Pierre Indian Boarding School graduate where the purpose was to assimilate Indian youth to white culture
- Graduated (1938 salutatorian) from Santa Fe Indian School, NM, where he was encouraged to pursue art
- Returned to teach art at his school, Pierre Indian
- Drafted in 1942, served with combat forces in Germany where he fell in love with Adelheid “Heidi” Hample.
- Won Grand Purchase Prize at the Philbrook Museum of Art and used the \$350 to bring Heidi to the U.S. They were married June 29, 1947, in Chicago.
- Their only child, Inge Dawn, was born in Talihina, OK, in 1948 when he was illustrating Indian costumes
- Earned his B.A. degree in 1952 from Dakota Wesleyan on the G.I. Bill and designed Mitchell Corn Palace murals from then until 1971.
- From 1953-1957, taught art in Pierre H.S. and also returned to the University of OK for the M.F.A. degree
- In 1957, came to USD as professor and artist in residence
- His painting “Ghost Dancer” was rejected in the 1958 Philbrook Competition as not being ‘Indian enough’ which motivated him to write a retribution of this decision influencing future expectations of Indian art.
- Heidi started serving as his manager, there were 60 solo exhibits, 15 grand or first-place prizes and other awards for his paintings of strong colors, pulsating space, dynamic movement, and abstraction.
- “Dorothy Field Award” (Denver Art Museum 1952), “Mary Benjamin Award” (Museum of New Mexico 1960), “Waite Phillips Trophy for Outstanding Contribution to American Indian Art” (Philbrook Museum of Art in Tulsa 1966), “Artist Laureate of South Dakota” (1966), inaugural “SD Governor’s Award for Creative Achievement” (1973) and “Golden Bear Award” (University of Oklahoma 1978.)
- After 25 years, retired from USD in 1980 and then launched a major retrospective tour from 1981-83.
- Claimed by Parkinson’s Disease, his funeral was at St. Paul’s Church in Vermillion where his artwork the “Indian Christ” is behind the altar



William Henry “W.H.” Over

June 10, 1866 -
Feb. 20, 1956 (89 years)
Lot 703 2W

- Born in a log cabin in Edwards County, IL, to James and Sarah (Kelsey) Over and was the eldest of five children; Nellie, Edwin, Muzetta and Harriet.
- Other than country school near Albion, IL, he had no formal education
- In 1888-1907 worked as a store clerk and dry goods merchant in Garden City and Lake Crystal, MN, then Clear Lake, SD
- Oct. 4, 1891 married Clementine Johns and they had two children; Clarence (1894) and Sara “Florence” (1898)
- 1908 homesteaded in Perkins County, SD and discovered two new fossils
- Hired as Assistant Curator of the USD museum in 1913-1926 and continued his archeology and geology studies.
- 1921 published *Birds of South Dakota* and was accidentally shot while on expedition.
- Published *Trees of South Dakota* and *Amphibians and Reptiles of South Dakota* in 1923 and was bitten by a rattlesnake while removing fangs
- In 1926 named museum curator and authored numerous articles and publications such as *Flora of South Dakota*, *Fishes of South Dakota*, *Archeology in South Dakota*, and *Indian Picture Writing in South Dakota*
- November 11, 1928, Clem passed away.
- 2nd marriage to the widow Minnie Billings on June 6, 1933
- In 1936 received honorary Doctoral of Science degree from USD
- Retired in 1948 after 37 years at the museum and in 1949, the SD Board of Regents renamed the USD Museum as the “W.H. Over Museum”
- SD State Horticultural Society awarded him the “John Robertson Gold Medal”
- In 1950 published *Life History of Sitting Bull*
- Contracted a lingering, terminal illness



Mabel Kingsley Richardson

Sept. 21, 1874 -
Feb. 1, 1962 (87 years)
Lot 904 1E

- Born in Lodi, Spink County, Dakota Territory to George Richardson, who was from Canada and Anna Kingsbury from IL.
- 2nd oldest of five children, Nellie May, Ethel, Arthur, and (Bertha) Bird.
- Blinded in one eye from a coat corsage pin in May of 1899 resulting in a glass eye
- USD Phi Theta Kappa charter member
- Graduated from USD in 1902 and was a charter member of the Alpha Xi Delta sorority as chaplain and historian.
- Member of the Congregational Church
- In 1907 graduated from the University of Illinois Library School – started position as the USD librarian
- Poet of national recognition and in 1922 wrote the words to the USD Alma Mater, “The Pioneer Song.”
- 1925-27 SD State Regent for the Daughters of the American Revolution
- Published a book of poetry, “Killdeer,” in 1936. Some of this collection were previously published in the *New York Sun*, *Los Angeles Saturday Night*, and *Literary Digest* to name a few.
- Won *Argus Leader* contest using the “Pioneer Song” as the State of SD anthem
- Retired from the USD Library in 1941 after 34 years. During her tenure the book collection went from 15,000 to 106,000 volumes.
- In recognition of her service, USD named manuscripts focusing on the cultural, political, and economic history of South Dakota as “The Mabel Richardson Collection”
- She outlived her siblings and Herb Schell was one of her pall bearers.