

Hanley Farm Profile

Mary Hanley arranged for the Southern Oregon Historical Society to take ownership of Hanley Farm after her death, which occurred in 1882. Since then, the Society has maintained the property, following careful curatorial procedures, and shared the home and its grounds with the community through events and tours. Many memorable weddings have taken place next to this home!

Michael and Martha Hanley, grandparents of Mary, had purchased the property in 1857. They lived in the double cabin on the property until their original home was completed. In 1875, the Hanleys added the front parlors and bedrooms to the original 1860s home. The entranceway, flanked by two parlors, leads to an exceptionally graceful curved stairway.



Purchase Date: 1/1/1875

Year of Purchase:

Archibald and Elizabeth Welton; Jane and David Clinton

In 1852, Archibald and Elizabeth Welton, together with Elizabeth's father David Clinton and his wife Jane, established the first farm on the site. The Weltons and Clintons filed adjacent donation land claims, totaling 636 acres, and built a double-family log cabin and a barn (ca. 1854), which still stands. In 1857, they sold the properties to Michael and Martha Hanley.

Jane and David Clinton, with David's daughter Elizabeth and her husband Archibald Welton, filed donation land claims for a total of 636 acres in 1852. Their home no longer exists, but the barn they built in about 1854 is still standing. In fact, it may be the oldest barn in Oregon that is basically in its original form.

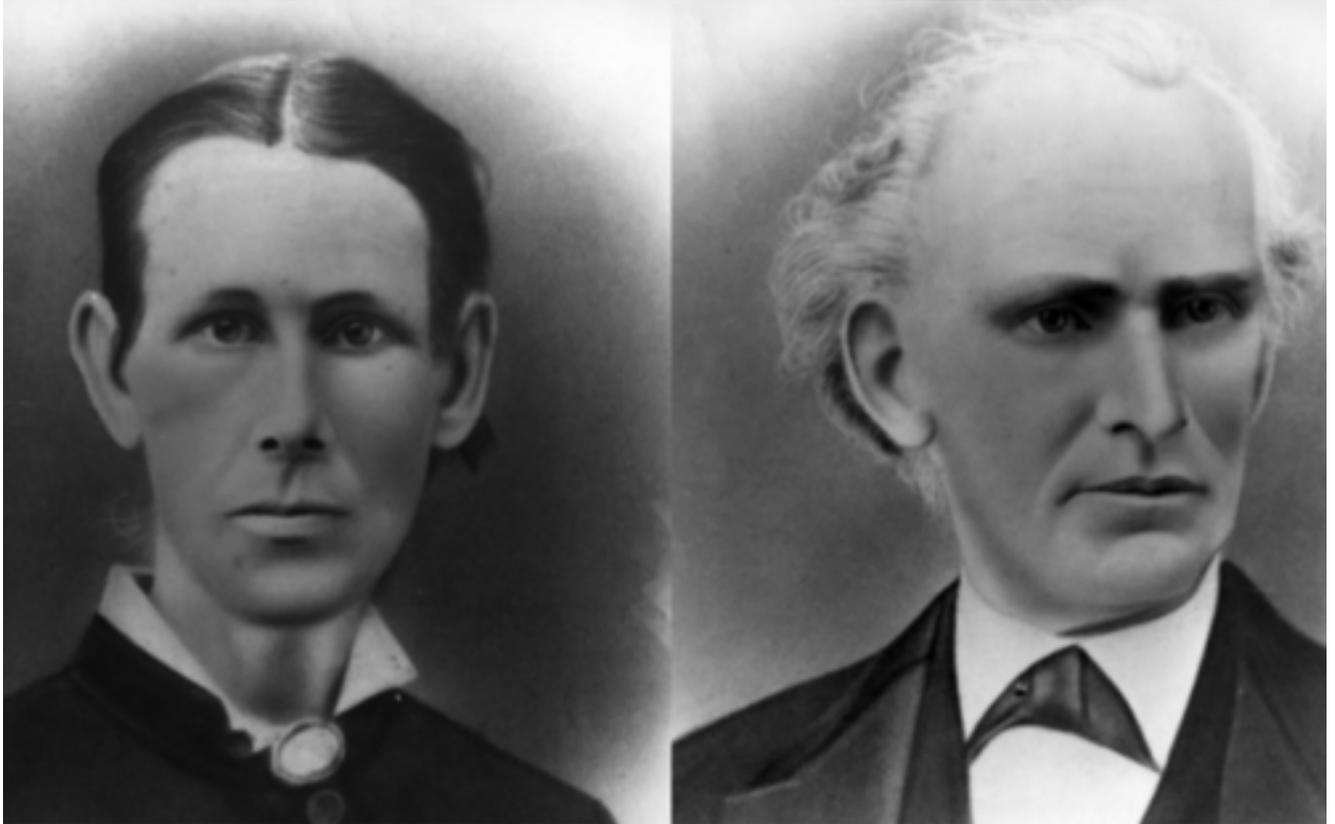


Year of Purchase: 1852

Years of Ownership: 1852 - 1857

Michael and Martha Hanley

Michael and Martha purchased the Clinton and Welton Donation Land Claims of 636 acres in Jackson County, and raised nine children (six survived into adulthood). Although the double cabin they first lived in was removed, and no photos or drawings of it exist, the home they built in the 1860s is intact. On special occasions, home tours include the back bedrooms in the original home. The downstairs rooms reflect the changes that took place as the family added modern conveniences.



Year of Purchase: 1857

Years of Ownership: 1857 - 1889

Alice Hanley

Alice Hanley spent her life in the Hanley home. She cared for her parents until their deaths, and raised her niece Claire from the age of six, in addition to managing a farm of over 100 acres. Alice also helped establish the Oregon Home Extension Service and served on its Board from 1919 until her death. In 1922 Alice ran against a Ku Klux Klan candidate for state representative. The KKK defeated Alice and many others that year, and [briefly controlled Oregon state government](#).

Although Alice did not inherit all of the original Hanley home furnishings, which were sold, she retained what she could and purchased pioneer family furnishings at auctions. We are fortunate today that Alice kept so much of the home intact, allowing us to view rooms much as they appeared after the home was built in about 1875.



Year of Purchase:

Years of Ownership: 1889 - 1940

Claire Hanley

Claire inherited Hanley Farm from her Aunt Alice in 1940. Claire and her sisters became orphans after their father died in 1901, and then their mother in 1904. Claire, who was just 6 years old, moved to Hanley Farm to live with Alice. Mary was raised by her uncles. Martha first left for Chile to live with her Aunt Ella, then returned to Oregon to live with her uncle Bill. After Claire inherited the farm, she invited her sisters to live there, too. None of the sisters married. Claire ran the Jacksonville Museum, then served as the Southern Oregon Historical Society President from 1950 until her death. Claire and her sisters not only managed the Farm, but also enhanced it with magnolia trees and gardens.



Year of Purchase: 1940

Years of Ownership: 1940 - 1963