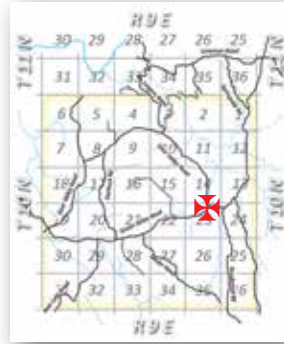


Brandon

Edgar Brandon was born in 1829 in the village of Huntington Mills, Pennsylvania; the tenth of 14 children born to William and Tryphena (Fuller) Brandon. In about 1836, with two uncles and his brother, Benjamin Fuller Brandon, Edgar emigrated to Lee County, Illinois, where they engaged in farming. About 1854, leaving his Brandon relatives in Illinois, Edgar traveled to California. Edgar married in Illinois, but there is no record that his first wife, Anne Sesilla Thompson, ever joined her husband in California.



The 1860 census in El Dorado County has Edgar Brandon listed as a store clerk in White Oak Township. The store was likely John Wing's store, also known as the "Old Brick House." In 1861, Edgar was elected as one of two constables for White Oak Township.

On September 19, 1861, Edgar married, as his second wife, Mary Josephine Reimer, who was the sixth of seven children. They were married by Father Largen who served at St Patrick's Church in Placerville from 1858 to 1869. Father Largen also served as priest at Coloma, and was a circuit minister.



Art Brazil Family Collection

Everyone called Mary J. Brandon, "Grandma Brandon," even if they were not related.

Edgar and Mary Brandon had a total of eleven children, the first four born between 1861 and 1869 at Jayhawk. The first four were: Mary T. (Mamie), Andrew, Frederick Joseph, and Charles Edgar Brandon. Family records kept by Edgar's daughter, Anna (Brandon) Bass, indicate that Andrew Brandon was the second child and that he died at birth, date unknown. Andrew was buried at Jayhawk Cemetery where, to this day, a circle of rocks at the back of the Reimer Plot marks his grave.

About 1870, the Brandon's moved to Napa, where the 1870 census shows Edgar working in a tannery. Three of the Brandon daughters were born at Napa: Sylvina Agnes ("Dinnie"), Marquerite Cecilia, and Rose Ellen Brandon. The oldest child, Mary, died at Napa in 1873 and is buried there at the Tulocay Cemetery. About 1879, the Brandon's returned to Jayhawk where they



Carpenter Family Collection

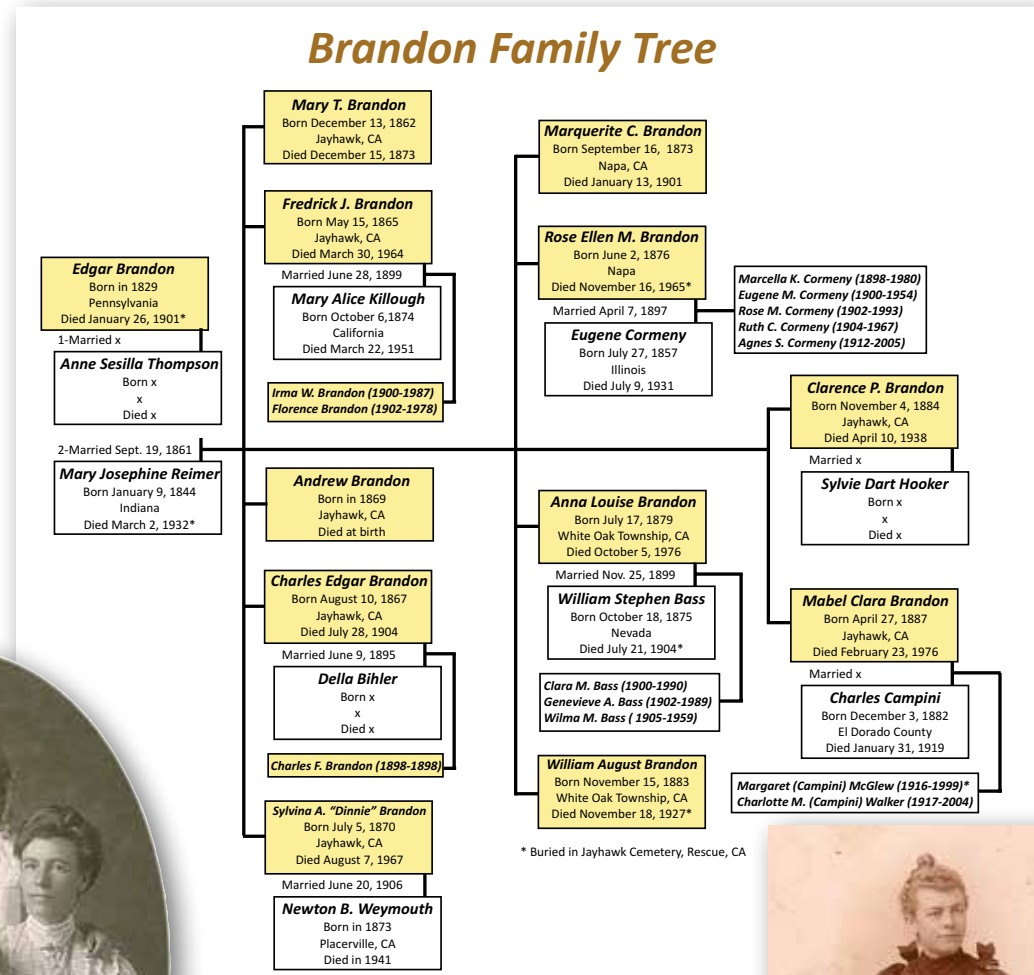
The Kelley Creek Store was built about 1850 as a roadhouse. Many families and miners called it home. At various times, it was a home, store, boarding house, and probably a tavern. It was torn down, before it fell down, in 1966.

History of a Place Called Rescue

appear in the 1880 census residing at the home of Mary Brandon's father, Frederick Reimer. Edgar's occupation is listed in that census as, "moulder." This is confirmed by his daughter, Rose's recollection that her father worked as a molder for the Morey Foundry in Placerville.

The remainder of the Brandon children (all born at Jayhawk after the family returned from Napa) were: Anna Louise ("Nonna"), William August, Clarence Phillip, and Mabel Clara Brandon. The Brandon children all attended the Deer Valley School.

On November 29, 1884, Edgar Brandon bought the Reimer farm at Jayhawk, a 160-acre parcel, for \$1,000 from his father-in-law, Frederick. Edgar's daughter, Rose Ellen (later Cormeny), fondly recalled



Mabel Clara (Brandon) Campini, taken about 1912.



Fredrick J., Mary Alice (Killough), Irma (back), and Florence Brandon (front), in 1910.

John Gibson Collection



Marquerita Brandon, taken in about 1900.

L. R. Swick Family Collection