

Rev. M. J.

**Personal History of  
Alsina Elisabeth Brimhall Holbrook**

*A Love Story*

Prepared by Mary Jane G. Fritzen

Personal History  
of  
Alsina Elisabeth Brimhall Holbrook  
(16 December 1876 - 26 July 1960)

by Mary Jane G. Fritzen

Prepared for L. H. Holbrook Family Reunion

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Helen Holbrook Dahlquist, Reunion Chairman

## Introduction

Many writings of Grandma Holbrook are available, in addition to those used. These, used and not used herein, are beautiful, meaningful and worthwhile. Omitting them does not indicate we value them less, but we appreciate them too.

As Grandma speaks of "that family tie of love," so her story is a true love story, and is so subtitled.

Sina's great work in her later years was gathering material for her father's history. Because of their close ties, we have included items about George H. Brimhall and the Brigham Young Academy in the chronological history. In the chronology we have sometimes abbreviated names of her father and husband to G.H.B. and L. H. H.

Because of her work in genealogy and family records we include some of her family group sheets, as well as tributes from grandchildren. We have combined personal accounts by Sina with some by Fay, and made a few minor adjustments as in occasional punctuation. Most of this material and photos were supplied by Jennie Holbrook Groberg, who has many of her mother's records. We acknowledge with gratitude her assistance, and also thank others who have contributed. We are grateful for the assignment, and hope you enjoy it.



Two views of Sina



## Table of Contents

Introduction	2
I. Sina--Childhood, Youth, Education	6
II. "Our Kingdom," Motherhood	18
III. The Family Grows Up	26
IV. Chronological History of Sina, with Related Events	36
V. Grandchildren's Tributes	47
VI. Family Group Sheets	52
Sina's Marriage	
Her Parents	
George H. Brimhalls' 2nd Family	
Her Brimhall Grandparents	
Her Wilkins Grandparents	

### Photos

Sina	3
Sina and Fay, golden wedding	5
Sina's Family, Brimhall	8
Provo Home and B. Y. Academy	15
Missionaries, tour, wedding	16
Young Motherhood	24
Nine Daughters	25
Family in Provo	30
First Grandchildren	34
Some Grandchildren	35
J. Will and Jennie Knight	46
School Teaching Certificates, Awards	57, 58



Golden Wedding, 15 May 1951

## Alsina Elisabeth Brimhall Holbrook

### Sina--Childhood Youth, Education

#### Her First Twenty-five Years

The story of Alsina Elisabeth Brimhall, like that of Abraham Lincoln, has already been told, and does not want improvement, so we can retell it using her own words. To these we will add some of our own, and some of her husband's. The story is a love story, preceded by an earlier love story of her parents, George H. Brimhall and Alsina Elizabeth Wilkins.

George H. Brimhall and Alsina Wilkins were both native pioneers of Utah, living with their families in 1874 in Spanish Fork. He was near 22, she was 18, and they were engaged to be married in December. Alsina's mother was ill, with five children at home, her oldest daughter married, but the youngest child age 11. She and her husband, George Washington Wilkins, called Alsina and George to her bedside, and asked them not to postpone their wedding day. Then she died on 5 Dec. Three weeks later the young couple traveled to Salt Lake City to be married in the Endowment House, 28 December, 1874.

Sina writes of her parents' wedding trip: "The house on the highway still stands where they took lodging going and coming from Spanish Fork. When they went back they had with them furniture they had purchased for their home. Father bought the smallest flatirons he could buy, as he didn't want his wife to lift heavy irons from coal stove to table where ironing was done. . ."

Sina's father, George H., chose to follow a career in education, and was teaching school in Spanish Fork. On 13 December, 1875, a daughter, Lucy Jane Brimhall was born to them in the small adobe house George had built for his bride. The next year Karl G. Maeser, called by Brigham Young, began his work to organize and conduct the B.Y.A. When the first academic year began in August, George H. was a student. This was 1876, the U. S. Centennial year. On 16 December, Alsina Elisabeth Brimhall was born. She was born in the same home in Spanish Fork where her mother had been born, the home of Sina's grandparents. How did they happen to be there? Following his wife's death, George Washington Wilkins was called on a mission, and the newlyweds moved into the Wilkins home to help care for the children. Sina recalls that home:

"In Spanish Fork on the corner of First North Main and First East Streets, there is a large brick building. This is the spot where I was born 16 Dec., 1876. At this time there was a home built and owned by George Washington Wilkins, my grandfather. My parents had built a nice little home on the east bench, but they left it to go to Grandfather's while he went on a mission to the eastern states. Father and Mother had a picture taken with their firstborn, but none of the rest of the children. Mother held a small Bible in her hands that Father had given her before they were married. On the flyleaf is written:

To Miss Alsina Wilkins,  
Please accept this little token, nor is it free  
from faults,  
But, like the one who gave it thee, it seeks that  
which exalts."

Sina writes, "As an infant I contracted diphtheria. My parents were anxious for it was a terrible epidemic at the time. Whole families died of it. Medical care was almost impossible. Early in the morning one time during this illness, Father had arisen to work in his garden. Mother heard me choke. She picked me up quickly, hurrying to the door; tried to help me get my breath, called father. He ran fast, took the consecrated oil, and administered to me, pleading for the Lord to spare my life. He also promised me life, and when through, it was said he ran out of the house, lest by looking at me his faith would have weakened. Later in life he said he often thought about me and my recovery and tried to understand why I was permitted to live. When he saw me with our family of little children, he said he knew then why my life had been spared--to be a mother in Israel. . . .

"My childhood was happy, but I remember little about it. My sister and I were so near the same age that we were quite pals. After we moved back from grandfather's to the little home father had built for his sweet wife, we had a large lot to play on and a fence around it. When I was about two years old our first brother was born there. From the first realization of this baby a family love-tie began to be strengthened. Two little girls with a baby brother to watch as mother bathed him, to rock him to sleep when he cried, and to be in the race to be with him when he awakened, all were evidence of that family tie of love. . .

"Our home on the hill was not our home long. Father moved us in a wagon loaded with furniture to another home close to his school and to Grandmother Brimhall. My Sister Jennie didn't want to go, but made up her mind that if she could not have her home and her family she would go





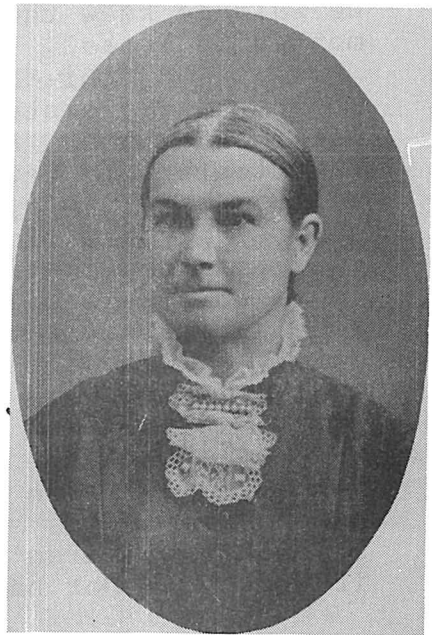
Sina's mother, father and sister, Lucy Jane



Lucy Jane and Sina  
*(Dennis)*



Sina's father with her brothers  
Mark                      Wells                      Wash



Grandma Brimhall (Rachel Ann Mayer)

with the family. This second home we moved to soon became loved too, more so because three other brothers were born there, each one equally as important as the first three of the first home.

"Here my sister and I were little girls at play with our dolls or mud pies on the bank of the big ditch, all the people on the block took their garden water from. There were cottonwood trees along its bank. One day we were swinging on the boughs of this tree, and we spied a nest of eggs running over. We hastily ran to the gooseberry bush where the nest was, and to the house to tell mother. She told us to leave one egg in the nest and put the rest in the bucket. She said they were our eggs and we might go to the co-op store and buy something for ourselves. We purchased some white cloth for her to make us some aprons to play in Sunday afternoons. The first time we wore them we climbed in and out of the buggy and got black grease on our aprons, both sides. Mother spread some butter on the spots before washing them so they looked like new again."

When Sina was eight she was baptized, 3 September 1885. She remembers her baptism very well:

"It was performed on the Spanish Fork river by A. R. M. Beck. On a chair by the river I was confirmed, also by this good man. He baptized all five of us who lived to that age. (Milton Albert died in infancy.) The following lines, written by my father, describe this Elder A. R. M. Beck:

A townsman rare, unique and quaint,  
Doing his share without complaint.  
No arches high his life streams span,  
But just the plank of a humble man.

I knew him well in days of yore,  
And wish that I had known him more.  
As memories fond his features span,  
I see the face of an honest man.

He saw and spoke the simple truth  
To sedate age and careless youth.  
Not in ripples his phrases ran,  
But just the words of a sincere man.

His fearless life and frugal ways  
In time of want and troubled days  
Proclaimed him more than words ere can  
To be a strongly courageous man.

Widows he helped, he fed the poor,  
No man of grief turned from his door.  
His motto, Do what good you can,  
Marked him a kind free-hearted man.

He loved his task, was true to God,  
He firmly clung to the iron rod.  
And when he died the angels ran  
And shouted, Here comes a noble man!

"My first few days of school were with my father as teacher. His sister Ruth Rose assisted him. One of those days my sister and I stopped in a harness and wax shop to get some wax to chew. I chewed it in school. I also would try to attract the attention of the pupils,, open my mouth wide so they could see the black wax clink in my teeth as I shut and opened my mouth. For this I was sent to the corner of the room, on a chair on the rostrum by father. As a result of this father taught us girls at home."

"During my girlhood we had a great deal of freedom. On Sundays we were allowed to romp with our cousins through the house and yard; but we did not play much, if at all, except at school, with other children; but we always preferred to please father in his requests. Even at that early age we seemed to have the highest regard for Church requirements and fell in line with the grown-ups very willingly.

"I remember one Sunday there was called a special fast day. It was when the Church property was threatened with confiscation at the time of the trouble about polygamy. I can't remember of anyone suggesting that I should fast; but the atmosphere was there and I breathed it. I did not eat and attended the services. They were held in the old meeting house with its balcony where I sat. My, it seemed a hallowed place. I don't remember anything that was said, but I felt happy, unusually so. When I went home, we were living at grandmother's; there seemed to be a housefull, and the table could only seat six for grandmother sat at the east end and grandfather at the west. It was twilight. I slipped to the cupboard, took a piece of bread and reached down into a two-quart bottle and got a pickle, a large one. I went into the bedroom and ate it. To this day my mouth waters at the memory of that home-made bread and sour pickle. Nearly every fast day now I think of that incident with its early lesson of gratitude and faith in the leaders of the Church and in their requests.

"I recall always feeling a tenderness for my little brothers. Wells was next to the baby Milton H. who was laid away in infancy. . . .  
When my baby brother Milton was born Mother had a relapse from her confinement and was taken from us. Grandmother was

in middle life but took us five little children in. Here are some lines that my husband and I wrote to be read at the Brimhall Family reunion:

"Sometime during the second seven years of my life father married another lovely lady--mother's choice. So a home-nest was again intact. On her sixty-third birthday father wrote:

Flora

Sixty-four times the earth has journeyed round the sun.  
Fourteen-hundred seasons have come and flown;  
Twenty-three thousand sixty-six dawns  
Have banished darkness since you were born,  
And here you are at once Sweetheart and Grandma.

"She loved to have things clean and orderly and yet found time of an evening to read aloud to us, the 'Scottish Chiefs.' She was Scotch by birth. She was young and romantic and we enjoyed it.

"But I must go back just a little. For a while after mother's illness her sister Aunt Gustie lived in our home and took care of us five children. She had a daughter, Cassie, who became like a sister to us. It was while Aunt Gustie was the homemaker that Father purchased a home upon a hill, yet very much in town. With hope still alive that mother would become well and strong, father had purchased it. She had every care.

"One night while all was silent she arose, put the biscuits in the pan to raise, (Aunt Gustie had mixed the bread the night before), and went back to bed. Father, owing to this incident, decided to have her go to the state hospital for treatment. He accompanied her there on Nov. 14th, 1885. Here she remained a little favorite of those workers there. . . .On Jan. 10, 1926 the doctor phoned father that mother was very ill. Father hastened to her bedside, took her in her arms, carried her to the car that gave him, as he said, the "joy-ride" of his life, to his home where the change from mortality to immortality was witnessed by her living children at her bedside.

And father wrote--

To Alsina E.  
All radiance now over yonder  
She sits on the throne of her worth;  
And smiles in the midst of her splendor  
With a love that reaches to earth.

"Certainly my father must have a mother in the home and a wife by his side, for his mission was big and important, so Flora came while we lived in the house on the

hill. Here Lucy Jane (Jennie) and I used to sit under the trees in the apple orchard, peel and core apples and sing, "My Bonnie Lies Over the Ocean." The hours slipped by happily as we thus filled the pans and buckets with apples ready to put on the roof to dry.

"It was after one of these days, early evening that father came home from Provo where he was teaching in the Parker School and told us we were to move to Provo. We all hustled and finally the hay racks were loaded with our belongings; with us children on top we reached our Provo home on First South and First East when the dawn of day appeared. There was some sort of celebration that day and father had some part in it, so he was glad to be able to get us moved in time. That winter I attended the Parker School where father taught. We kept boarders that winter to help with expenses. A new baby was expected in the family and we had a hired girl to do the hard work.

"During the time we lived in this home father was beset with many cares. Some enemies in quiet gave the officers no peace until father was judged and acquitted of the same charge that great numbers of our people went to prison for in the days of plural marriage. Of course, as you know from my previous lines, Flora was the only companion he was living with. To divorce mother was unthinkable, so I believe the Lord was good to us in causing the Judge to say, 'Mr. Brimhall, do you intend to obey the law of United States?'

"Father said, 'Yes, as long as I am in the United States.' How well I remember that day. The courtroom was packed with educators, father's friends and supporters who had presented petitions and came to hear the case. When father was dismissed people began to file out. . . .

"Father became connected with the Brigham Young University soon after this. He built a home on 1st West and 3rd North. I went to Salt Lake City and lived with Flora for some time as there wasn't a great deal of peace from those who were persecuting good men. It was then called the 'underground.' I went to the Fourteenth Ward District school under the name Sina Wilkins which of course was my mother's name. . . . I graduated from there.

"Then came my entrance into the Brigham Young Academy. This was in 1893, the year the school moved into its new home. In August my grandfather Brimhall gave me a patriarchal blessing. Bless his memory for voluntarily doing this. It has surely been an anchor to my life. It told me of my life's companion, of the helping to build up a new waste place of Zion, of the first two children, and the name I should give our first little daughter. It spoke of her being meek and lowly of heart, ever diligent with her hands and her mind, and followed saying, 'Be ye comforted, for the years speedily come when thou shalt greet thy loved ones, and also thy mother shall be returned to thee in

full-rounded health of body and mind, and thy joy shall be full.' He told me of the character of my first son and of his work. . . .He admonished me thus, 'Keep the commandments of the Lord, and He will keep thee.' . . . Surely it has held and grounded me in the Faith as the 'roots of the mighty oak.' In that blessing I was promised a life's companion and motherhood, both of which came true.

"Somewhere in the halls of the B.Y.U. in my 17th year, I met this companion, the father of our eleven children. He tells me now that his attention was first drawn to me as being Jennie Brimhall's sister. She was a general favorite among the boys and I became the benefactor. It suited me perfectly. The experiences of four years at BYA were romantic. . . .It was a time of great developing power of head, heart, hand. Great additional testimony of the gospel, strengthening of my knowledge of Gospel already learned in home and in our wards. It also gave me a profession that I used until I was married, when I gladly laid it aside, although I had a life certificate. . . . In 1897 I took out my Degree of Bachelor of Pedagogy well assured I would only teach school until my future husband should return from his mission to New Zealand where he went the following July.

"Misses Delia and Eva Maeser gave him a farewell party at the Maeser home. While they were all busy with games he and I slipped away and he gave me a tiny pearl-handled gold pen, with which I gave him, a few months later, the promise of remaining true as his bride-to-be. My three and a half years teaching followed. His letters were a constant inspiration and kept my star of hope shining brightly.

Fay was "mentioned by the patriarch as like unto King David, rudy countenance, and faithful, would be wise in teaching the children of men the ways of life and salvation. . . . father in Israel, posterity to be multiplied, Lord would give inheritance, who should never want for food, clothing, habitation, who would have way open for him and his house be provided for. One to whose priesthood there would be no end, whose divine heirship should remain in family lines through all generations, . . . have government over himself and family. . . ."

"In May 1900, by consent of Supt. L. E. Eggertson, principal of the Springville schools, I obtained a leave of absence and went to Europe to meet my missionary. He in company with his mission president Ezra Stevenson were making a circle of the globe returning by Europe and the Atlantic home. My husband's sister Clara Holbrook, now Jarvis, was laboring as a missionary in London, England. We four toured the main countries of Europe, spending three months together.. . .

"This experience abroad was sweetened constantly by

the companionship of my lover.) It may be that the romance of the trip detracted materially from my collection of facts because I find I really didn't get many because it is not easy for me to converse on subjects so readily handled by others who have since toured the old world. But why should I care? Love is the greatest thing in the world and mine was just in the bud.

"I was in the pink of health on my return home. I began teaching school that fall 1900 in Spanish Fork. I lived with Grandma Brimhall who lived just below the school house. Whether the strain of going directly into school after strenuous travelling could have been the cause, I gave up my school in early spring. I went to my sister's home to rest and prepare for my wedding day.

"On 15th of May, 1901, my sister and father accompanied us to Salt Lake, taking a Pullman. At the Temple door we were introduced as a young couple come to start a kingdom. Lafayette Hinckley Holbrook and Alsina Elizabeth Brimhall were married in Salt Lake Temple. Not until that event was consummated did I ever feel that I had found my life's project. Of course the foundation had to be laid. It was a deep satisfaction to feel the urge of this bigger, broader field of life giving way to its realization. The marriage structure in our hands and hearts to be built offered a work so desirable that peace and contentment in it has remained to this day. Oh parenthood! How appealing your call. Father, I thank Thee for its privilege.

"Apostle George Teasdale performed our marriage ceremony. We had both had our endowments so went directly to the sealing room. It was the custom when young girls went far from home journeying under the direction of the Priesthood to have their endowments before going. That is why I had had mine. The day in the temple was short and sweet.

"We had a family dinner at my father's home on 1st West and 3rd North. Mrs. Ardelia Booth prepared it for \$30.00. In the evening my husband's people gave a dancing party in the First Ward meeting house. They also served ice cream to guests at their house. Here is a bridal tribute composed and read on this occasion by Miss Aretta Young, poet laureate of B.Y.U.:



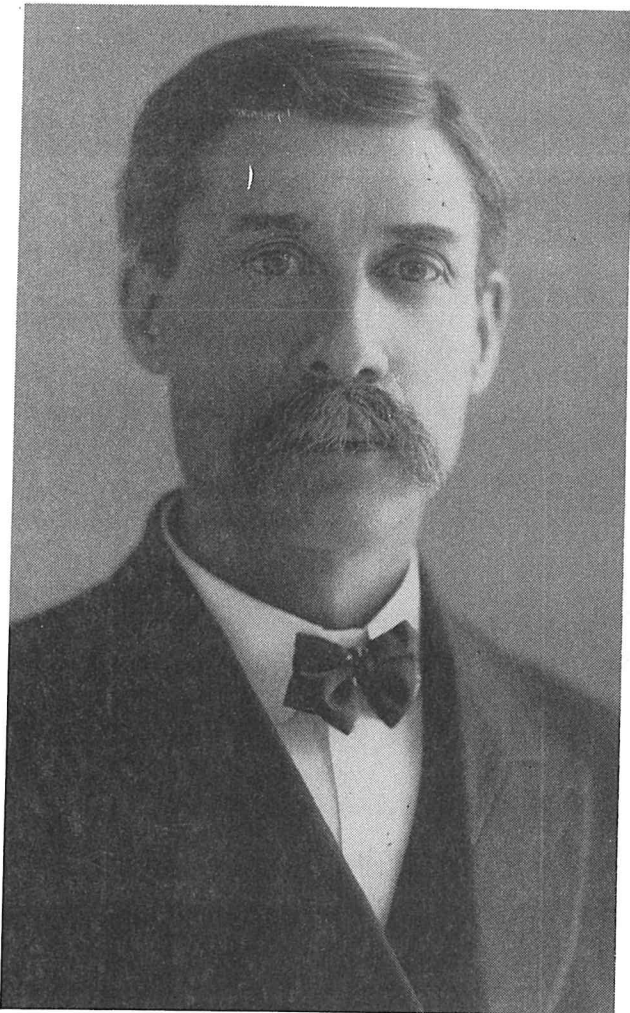
Brigham Young Academy



Sina at B. Y. A.  
Queen of the May



L. Holbrook (Fay's Father)  
G. H. Brimhall --BYU Board

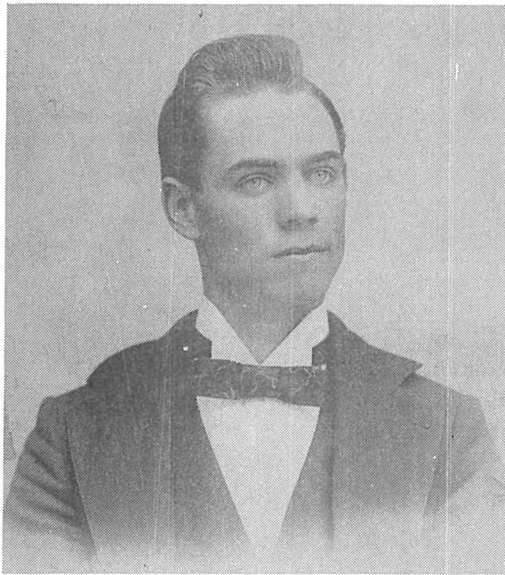


George H. Brimhall  
B. Y. A. Faculty

G. H. Brimhall home, Provo



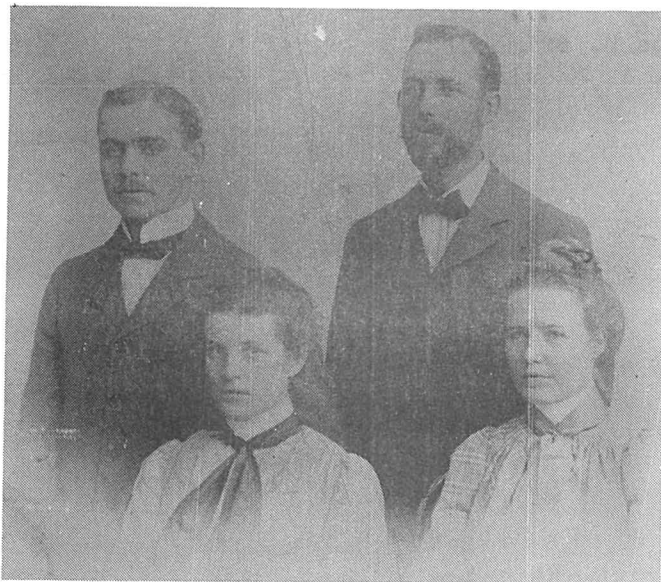




Elder Lafayette Hinckley Holbrook  
New Zealand Mission



Miss Alsina Elisabeth Brimhall



Tourists after the mission  
Elder Holbrook      Pres. Ezra Stevenson  
Sister Brimhall      Sister Clara Holbrook



Fay and Sina, 15 May 1901

Fay and Sina

Friends have gathered here to greet thee,  
Where the festal halls are fair,  
Where a wealth of living garlands  
Breathe their perfume on the air.

All around you seems a halo,  
Where sweet hope hath set its light.  
May it never leave thy pathway  
Neath the sable robes of night.

May love and faith be heart companions  
At thy fireside, neath thy hearth,  
✓ In success and with thy failures,  
In thy sadness and thy mirth.

Love to hide the unguessed failings  
Time may prove that both possess,  
✓ And to find the hidden virtues  
That no other heart may guess.

Love to be thy sweetest solace  
In this world of mortal care.  
✓ Faith to lead thy faltering footsteps  
To the sacred place of prayer.

"After the party and 'God Bless You's' were said by friends and relatives we went to my sister, Mrs. Jennie B. Knight's home, where we spent our wedding nite."

## "Our Kingdom," Parenthood

"So we began planning our future move, definitely. Grandpa Holbrook was willing to finance us if we wished to go East and study to become efficient in any chosen labor for earning a livelihood, to get enjoyment from life. There was another opening also. We could at least go on a honeymoon. We could be pioneers in a new "waste place of Zion." This was our choice.

"At this time, Brother Jesse Knight had established a new city and called it Raymond, located in Alberta, Canada. My sister's husband, J. W. Knight, had an interest in the Bar K-2 Ranch not far from this settlement. To this we now turned for our honeymoon. My husband worked on the ranch and I helped some about the house; but mostly I roamed the hills with my "twenty-two" that father had sent. . . . Lazily time sped on; but one dream alone was mine--I was building a tabernacle for a promised son.

"Seeing opportunities in the new town of Raymond, my husband went there to work and to build us a home. I could hardly wait to go to this unfinished home that was to really be our very own. I did go. With mainly our wedding gifts, we started housekeeping, although the doors were not yet hung. It was fun every minute. Upon one occasion my husband had a call to go from home overnight. He told me to put my gun near the bed and bullets under my pillow and if I need the gun to use it. I felt a little concerned about a stray coyote walking in the opening with a quilt for a door, but not really afraid. I went to bed without even lighting the lamp. Unexpectedly my husband came home about midnite, removed the gun and bullets, went to bed and I knew nothing of it.

"The city of Raymond, Alberta, Canada, became our home. We would have the encouragement of Jennie and Will Knight, and my brothers joined at different times. It was on the night of 16 March, 1902, that our star of morning arose, and we gave to her its firstborn son, a promise of nine years before fulfilled. How much this little boy knew about his little pal sister then in Heaven, who knows? But the night she was born he was present, calm as if listening. Then, with us, his listening ears heard the sound, a voice proclaiming she was here. . . . Dear children, know always that you lived before you came here, that you will live hereafter, that the Lord has prophets, seers, revelation, patriarchs, to assist Him in His great work of salvation of His children. . . .

"The baby's grandfather wrote:

Bragged-on babe of 1902,  
How the world will jostle you.  
You'll have to hustle to keep the place  
Of first-prize winner in life's long race.

Climb out of failure, the dead past forget,  
Bury the burden of useless regret.  
Borrow no trouble, cloud not today  
With ills of tomorrow; cast them away.

"(His grandfather was then in California, very ill.)

"When our little son was a month old we took him to church and his father blessed him, and gave him the name, Raymond Brimhall Holbrook. How he did grow, in spite of our ignorance. . . . Aunt Jenne did most of the sewing for this growing chap. Aunt Zina Card came to her house one day when we had the house littered. She helped make buttonholes and critically surveyed some we had attempted. She is the lady who had washed and annointed me as an expectant mother. In this ordinance I was greatly blessed and comforted in my confinement.

"We were able to purchase a second-hand baby buggy and I felt quite independent. Sometimes when he cried I would wheel him way off on the prairie, put him down and let him cry. I would tell him when he stopped I would come for him. I can just see him now--running after me screaming louder and louder. I would cruelly walk away till he would almost be exhausted. I am ashamed. Why didn't I enjoy him instead?

"The coming of his little sister Dec. 6, 1903, was an event for him. She has been a pal to him ever since. . . . When eight days old baby sister was blessed by grandfather Brimhall giving her the name prophetically given her when I was 16 years old. Rachel, Jacob's first love.

"Pleasant indeed was our life in Canada. . . . Our honey moon was over. Raymond was a little boy and Rachel a babe in arms. We returned with them to Provo and planned to go into some special study, as considered just after marriage."

Fay gives us more of the story: "In Raymond, Sina was the first Y. W. M. I. A. president and I the first Ward Clerk, Sunday School superintendent, and later served as first Sunday School Stake superintendent in the newly organized Taylor Stake. Uncle Will was the new town's first bishop and Aunt Jennie the first Relief Society president. We all were very happy in these pioneer assignments.

"Father had given us about 100 head of cattle and eight or nine good horses. We made payments on approximately 100 acres of choice land closely adjoining the town. For a time I held three jobs and all was well. I became over-ambitious and borrowed nearly \$8,000, with the bank asking only a mortgage on the Utah cattle. This was more than their actual worth. With this I went to Manitoba and bought about 200 head of choice cattle. Father, after a visit, considered the land safe but thought cattle hazardous. His fears were well founded. Calamity struck before getting home with the cattle. A month or so later, the heaviest snow storm known there then or since literally

covered up and decimated mostly the Canadian cattle. This obligated me to sell all I had, which I did and paid every debt with interest in full. Had I escaped this calamity I may have been later a well-to-do Canadian. From the first I never intended giving up my U. S. citizenship. . . . From the wreckage, after all the debts were paid, I salvaged \$3,400, much better than our friends felt possible. With this, we were again back in Utah."

Again from Sina: "We were renting part of Grandmother Hinckley's house which was through the lot from my father's home. Papa had purchased five barred rock chickens for his little son. These thoroughbreds were fun and good. Raymond one day was in his Grandma B's when she took her bread out of the oven. He said, "Grandma, is that thoroughbread?"

From Fay: "In many ways, our Canadian experience was rewarding and we were in the truest sense pioneers in a group of mostly young people. The one thing that we missed in particular was a good doctor. The need for this and a sincere desire to please parents who had done so much for us were the incentives for our being back in St. Louis; I enrolled in its medical university. We were in the same apartment with Elmer (Mother's youngest brother) and his wife. We had been together through much of our early lives and figured some day we would be partners."

Sina continues the story: "We went to St. Louis. Here "Daddy" entered George Washington Medical School. This was fall, 1904. Theodore Roosevelt was then president of United States. One day we went to the World's Fair held there, and saw the president pass in a coach. We had our two children. . . . I recall how I got lost. Menfolks, Uncle Elmer and my husband went to see a Panorama, while Angie, his wife and children, and I and our two children would sightsee and meet them at the biggest organ in the fair. When dusk came on I was in the place where I thought held the biggest organ. Angie was in another place where she thought held the biggest organ. The caretaker called, "Closing time--all out, please." I went with the children in the go-cart and went out with eyes keen to find in which direction to go to the exit gate for I was going home, on the electric railway that we had come on. The car was loaded; the engineer let me set the children on a flat place that covered some machinery. I stood by them watchfully. We came, after hours riding, to a corner that seemed familiar as Jackson Ave. I got off. A man was standing there--no one else. It was a saloon corner. He saw me watching for the streetcar to Texas Ave., where we lived. He proffered help. I said, "No, thank you." But he came anyway and saw we didn't get run over. He saw me safely on; also he got on himself. We all, he included, got off at Texas Ave., and he begged to carry my baby, or the bag full of wets. "No, thank you." We arrived home, and I then decided he really was an honest man, with a kind heart. I asked him if he would take this quarter for helping me. He

smiled and refused, saying he had a wife and children, and just wanted to help me. I learned something there, and knew he was an answer to my constant prayer that I might arrive home safely and no harm come to either of the children.

"The medical school was strenuous. Papa used to like to go to the Odeon Playhouse on Saturday afternoon. He liked me to go with him. I was reluctant to leave the children, even in kind Angie's place. . . and I would'nt go to the Odeon, and he was hurt. When I went to bed I wrote my feelings. When he came home he read it and answered masterfully. . . .

"We were really glad when the year was over and we were home. In the summer Rachel was very ill with jaundice. . . ." Fay continues. "My first year in medicine was reasonably good and my credits were satisfactory. Next year, hoping to get in a better recognized school, I attended the Jefferson Medical School in Philadelphia for a time, with Sina remaining in Provo. It was a truly great school, but work in St. Louis did not jibe with second year classes there. In addition, both there and in St. Louis I would be sick when witnessing blood and smelling the anesthesia. Time failed to bring any cure. Absence of Sina and the little children may have contributed. . . . While I loved the theory of medicine and the good a doctor could do, I made the hardest decision of my life in concluding the medical profession was not for me. . . ."

Sina relates: "I was about my morning duties when he unexpectedly walked up the home path. . . .We were soon happily established on a chicken farm. Thoroughbred cows and chickens were the only kind of animals and fowls on the place. There were constant additions and improvements. Steer stanchions for the cows, separator for the milk, repairs in the home and cellar, putting up of fruit trees, so we didn't immediately become millionaires. But we had employment, health, and faith. I always had help in the home when I needed it." Fay adds: "The dairying was a real success, netting about \$400 per month. The inspector told me he would rank our dairy herd second or third best in the state. Vance Walker, who lived on the farm, managed the dairy, and I was free to buy and sell dairy cattle and other enterprises.

"While living in this farm home, Blaine, Jennie and Mary were born. It was there also where Raymond had a severe case of scarlet fever, but made a full recovery. Sina never had to wash the dairy utensils. The farm life was in every way pleasant and rewarding."

Of Blaine's coming, Sina writes: "He came to us at the close of a superb spring day, 8 of April. He was wanted ever so much and furnished us with life abundant. As the years went, Jennie followed him, perhaps to help him see truth and beauty, for she exemplified it. Mary, the largest newly-born babe came the day before Jennie's second anniversay. Mary was such an easy baby to care for. . . . Peace seemed to hover about her. . . ."

"Blaine was blessed in the First Ward, where our

farm was at the time. On the way home, as we rode in the buggy, I said to myself, 'When you have one, you are free; when you have two, you can do; but when you have three, there you be.' But I was glad, in my heaven."

The farm had been purchased for them by Fay's father for \$3,000, and included a home and about 12 acres of land, six irrigated, directly east of the Provo cemetery. It was shared with the Walker family. It was sold for \$12,500 after a few years, and the family moved into the clinker brick home Fay had built in Provo. During the flu epidemic in Provo, Elizabeth was born. Sina recalls, "I was so happy and well even though the nurse had to leave on a flu case. Rachel did the work and cared for the children and Jennie was the nurse. She would bring my meals, prepare bath water. Papa would bathe me. Aunt Jennie came and bathed the baby. Everything was more peaceable than ever before, with our new babies."

Fay had spent part of his time at a farm at Lynndyl\*, Sevier County, and part of his time in California, where he was able to make some good business exchanges. He wrote home about the World's Fair in San Diego and wanted them to join him. "But I was as happy as a queen because we were expecting Elizabeth. . . . One day at twilight as I was bathing the children, he came quietly in. He was always coming unawares. He had on a new sort of velvety hat and a mustache, and brought a sugar sack with some large oranges in." Fay also had purchased a farm in Lynndyl, had built a two-room home on it, cultivated the land, and was farming it. "One day he said to his mother, who was helping in the summer, 'Mother, Sina needs me. I must go home tonite.' So he took the nite train and came home. I had been ill all through the nite. Finally arriving at dawn, he was outside examining the garden, as I was walking around. Was I glad! I just gave up and Helen was here in no time. How welcome was her cheery cry. At once I knew a power had come. . . . When Papa went back to the farm. . . Rachel and Blaine went with him. She was only twelve, but kept house. . . When baby Helen was a month old Papa came and we all joined him and the three oldest children. We had no room to be comfortable; but to be together was the best. . . . Papa says he used to enjoy being out in the lucern field. There was always a breeze. The irrigating was very hard work. [However] he sold the farm, and we moved back to Provo. . .

"How strange that I have not mentioned the World's War. It had been in action for four years. I was absorbed with my home and babies...However I do remember Armistice Day and the days that led up to it; for little Vera, our family Peace Dove, was herald of that glorious event when she was born on 29 October. Her grandfather that following Xmas wrote this:

\*Lynndyl is found in Millard County, bordering Sevier County.

Sweet little Vera, our family Peace Dove,  
Welcome to earth-land from regions above;  
A flower in our garden, a fount never dry,  
A light in our window, a star in our sky.

"There was a small beet farm in west end of town that papa purchased. The children used to go there and top the beets. We now had eight girls, seven in a line. Papa began to wonder if he should not forget entirely the farm idea. When Alsina Elaine came he was fully decided, so the little beet farm was disposed of." The day of Elaine's birth, Sina was blessed by her father. "At twelve o'clock while the family were eating dinner, I called for things to be made ready for Elaine was coming in great speed. 'Another little girl,' whispered papa. How dear to our hearts this other little girl--perfect, a great gift, perfect in body. . . . All our family here; with parents, thirteen in number, and we hoped on for more. Up to date there were no empty chairs. Thirteen places at the table three times a day."

Fay writes: "Ruth, Elisabeth, Jean, Helen, Vera, and Elaine were born in the new home. We had efficient medical and other help with the nine born in Utah. In addition, for most of these births Jennie and Will were near. We built a barn on the lot for the three top cows from our dairy herd. On the lot we also had some fancy chickens and from year to year a good garden. The neighbors paid a good price for our surplus milk. These, with some rentals to "Y" students, about paid our grocery bills.

"While living in the clinker brick home, I [Fay] had a stone removed from my right kidney. The treatment at first was for Brights disease. . . . The first x-rays were installed in Salt Lake City at about this time. A picture taken revealed a stone and not Brights. . . . As I recall, this was in my 37th year."





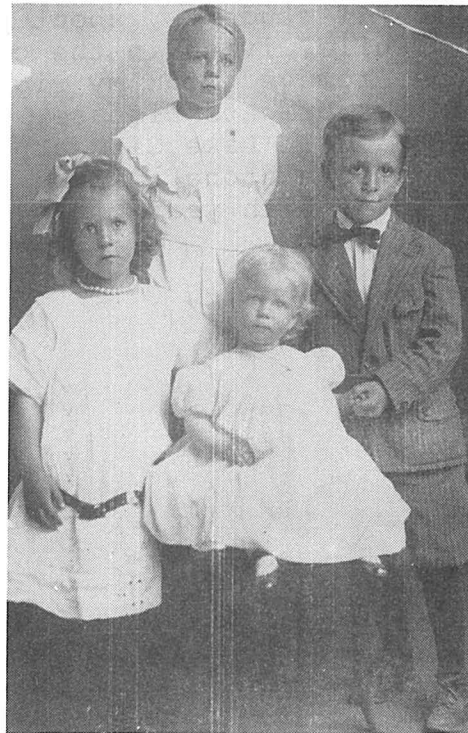
Sina as a young mother



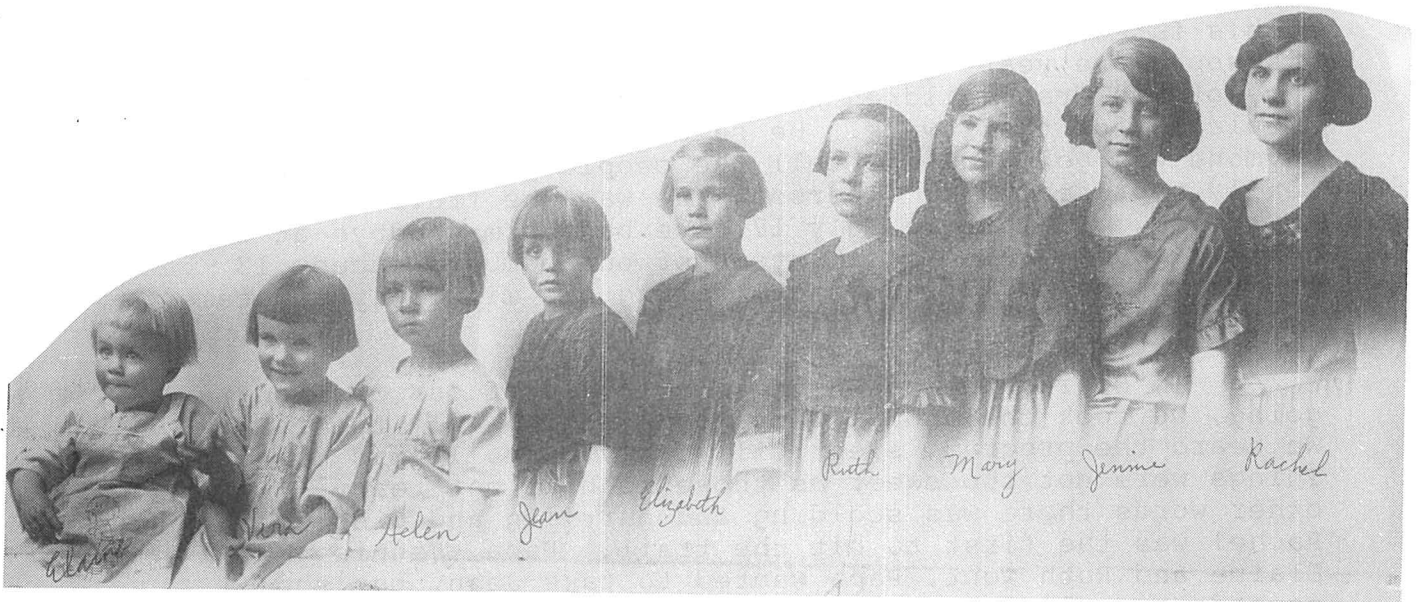
Blaine, Mary, Rachel, Raymond  
Ruth, Jennie



Raymond, Alberta Canada  
home revisited--  
back to the beginnings



Rachel, Blaine, Raymond  
Jennie



Nine lovely daughters



Eight lovely daughters with their mother

## Family Grows Up

"Then came a mission call for Raymond--a great family project. It was our mission. How proud we all were at his farewell. The commerce students of the "Y"--it was his sophomore year--gave him a Bible. Father spoke and said many of his grandchildren would go on missions and use airplanes for their work. He said it was not so much what Raymond was going out to tell the people as it was what he really represented as a person. He was the fruit of Mormonism. He left on July 17. We bade him goodbye at the train. Never again did thirteen of our numbers occupy 13 chairs at the table. In fact, during his mission years came testing times.

"Hoping to lessen the loneliness of our missionary going, we took the annual Timpanogos Outing--all the family. We heard the program, slept till early morn. It was cold. Things were not too sweet as those to hike got ready. In other words there was scolding and hurrying and disorder. Rachel was the first to hit the trail. Papa, Jennie, Mary, Blaine and Ruth went. Papa wanted to take Jean, but she seemed so small to go. After they were all gone, Elizabeth, Jean, Helen, Vera, and Elaine and I walked for a distance up the trail. Jean said as we sat down by a stream to drink, 'Mama, why aren't we more happy in our home?' Such cutting words from her and yet eight years. She looked so thoughtful and yearning. I told her we would try to be better. Those words burned so deeply that today they often cause me to stop and re-resolve. It was like an intimation of a pledge and I remake it as in memory I see her now. The four little girls and I visited around the camp. We came to Mrs. A. . . 's camp. She was unyielding and almost unkind when she remembered who I was. 'Yes it was your girl that nearly took my girl's sweetheart from her.' Another wound opened up. Of course I took up no argument. I prayed in my heart that bitterness would be released from hers. . . .When Uncle Will was ready, we went in his car bound for Spring Dell where his mother was to remain in her home there. On the way we stopped in the river bottom and ate watermelon.

"While stopping at Spring Dell the children all got out and rushed for the teeter totter and swings. I remained in the car. Presently Elizabeth came running for me to come to Jean. Aunt Jennie and I ran. There was Jean, as if dead. The standards of the swing had rotted, fallen

and pinned Jean under it. Philip had removed the cross bar and Elizabeth had picked her up. She seemed gone, her eyes were set and expressionless. She had an all-day-sucker in her throat, which Aunt Jennie reached in and removed. How we prayed. Frantically I called for Uncle Will to come from Grandpa Holbrook's garden, where he was looking at the shasta daisies. He put his hands on her head and blessed her. Picked her up in his arms and started to the home. She called 'Mama.' Ah, memory, what a moment of supreme joy. I knew she had been brought back to me by divine intervention. . . . We then took her down to the hospital to Dr. Carrol, who examined her, finding her skull fractured. He said he thought she would get well from it. Told us to let her rest, to watch for the crossing of the eyes. As Uncle Will and Aunt Jennie left that day we all knew it was a hallowed experience.

"That afternoon I was touched by opening the bedroom door to find Elizabeth with the smaller children kneeling by the bed praying. Jean rested and complained very little. When Papa and the older children came down from the mountain, it was not easy for them to realize the full import of what the experience seemed to breathe. Rachel the next day worked very hard cleaning house and many other things. She had been teaching in Idaho and was home for the summer. . . . In the fall Rachel went back to her school in Idaho. The accident happened in August. I think Rachel went back some early as her school would start in September. Shortly after her return we telephoned her that Jean was very low. Why? Because we wanted the strength of her faith and prayers.

"Then one day I was busy putting up fruit (tomatoes). Baby Elaine wanted me to rock her. Finally Jean said, 'Mama, I feel like I never want to see a tomato again. Won't you do for me what you wouldn't do for Elaine?' Something in her face caused me to say, 'Turn off the gas.' I sat down on the porch and rocked her. How I did hate to lay her down. Something told me that perhaps I would never hold her again. Her papa had been away. As soon as he came home he too recognized her illness as serious. I laid her on the bed in the boys' bedroom. Dr. Carroll was very faithful in his attendance to her. She was always very conscious and suffered much. On Sunday [26 Aug. 1923] she left us. It was the day of the dedication of the Canadian Temple. My father and Aunt Jennie were there. Her brother Blaine stood at the foot of her bed, and wept bitterly. He joined her a year later. He seemed to know shortly after her death that he only had a year's absence from her."

The experience of her death brought a very unusual experience for Sina. She seemed to endure it with strength, but afterwards she lost all her strength for a time.

In about Nov. 1923, "the family had all been ailing. Papa had a real case of quinsy. He was some better. One day near noon I was frying meat for dinner beside our coal stove, the phone rang. Papa answered it. I

heard him say, 'Is she seriously ill, Bishop? Some of us will leave tonite.' I can scarcely write it without the return of the indescribable feeling that the telephone conversation stirred. It was Rachel who was so seriously ill. I knew she would live; but Oh, to have her hundreds of miles away and about to be operated on. We planned to drive our car to Idaho Falls where she was in the hospital. Uncle Wells suggested the train would be better. He offered to drive us to the city to take train. . . . Neighbors helped and the children assured us that they could manage in our absence. We read her patriarchal blessing, which was an anchor substantial. Blaine was so sweet and so tender with the baby. When we were riding to the city I couldn't quite shake off the feeling that there were two from our family going to leave us. . . . We rode through the night by sleeper. . . arriving at the hospital shortly after 9 a.m. As we entered her room, Rachel smiled; oh, that saving smile. She had been operated on for a 24-hour ruptured appendix with gangrene set in. As I neared her bed I could feel the heat from her fever intense . . . .

"I did gain strength and papa recovered from his quinsy. For three weeks we remained at the hotel and at the hospital day and night. . . . Our bishop from home wrote us, assuring us of Rachel's recovery. The ward prayed for her, so did the school, her brother's missionary groups; so it was, she remained with us, as her blessing indicated. . . . The day before Christmas, when the doctor told us we could take her home, was full of joy unspeakable. One gift alone for this family that Xmas day was needed and received--Rachel was home.

"The following summer, at my father's suggestion and leadership (even offering to pay car expenses) a family party motored to Denver, Colorado. There was only one thing that marred that trip for me. I couldn't bear the chastisement of the look of pleading in Blaine's face to go with us. . . . He had a real struggle in our absence and only lived till August--stricken suddenly with pleural-pneumonia."

Fay tells of Blaine's death: "Within the year [after Jean's death] I took him to a picture show while Sina was entertaining some Relief Society officers. Usually he got a thrill from the shows. This time he was soon in real pain and distress and we started for home. . . . I had to almost carry him. The doctor was called. He said the lungs were rapidly filling. He died in my arms soon after the doctor made his second call." This was in 1924; Blaine was 18 years old. Many years later Sina wrote meditatively to Blaine:

"His long absence of 33 years has given us parents time to think about the many improvements the world has made in medical knowledge. We let that little word 'If' give us regrets, but we did of our constant faith and our devotion give fully to this little son who taught us so much of love, of patience, of humility, of repentance, of forgiveness and

of struggle. So Blaine, be assured your earth-life as one of our family was a help to us all. . . .You came to us just what we wanted--a brother for Raymond. There were no more came; but you had nine sisters. We have time now to think of many things, even our failings."

They noted when yet a nursing babe he was quite sallow. At the doctor's advice she gave the baby thyroid tablets, and he seemed to grow alright with nursing. "Somehow, I got an idea that I could train you not to cry. You were still cradle-age. When you would start to cry, I would look at you and shake my head and point my finger, saying, 'Don't cry, no, no!' Often you would seem to understand me; pucker your little mouth, your chin would quiver and you would go to sleep again. Now, I wonder if the repetition of this kind of discipline delayed your vocal organs from timely development; for it took you longer to talk plainly than the other children. . . . You loved the farm we lived on. When we sold it, you and even your big brother cried. Even Papa was sober. . . .You went to school at the B.Y.A. Training School for the first and second grade. Then when the time came to meet with the teachers of the school to plan for the next year, Brother James L. Brown, head of the Educational Dept., talked with me and said it would be better if I taught you at home, for it would take you a little longer to finish each year than the others and you would be older and bigger and would not be happy. . . . I was very prayerfully sad. But you know my daddy and Mama had taught me at home too. So I went about cooperating with the teacher."

She used text books recommended by the teacher, including a Montesorri set purchased jointly by the school, Aunt Jennie, and the family. Meditating over the little notebook she kept his lessons in, she writes, "I almost wish I could be your teacher again; but now you are promoted, for your spirit could never be happy if you could not progress--and maybe that is why you went back to Heavenly Father sooner than most boys." He took part in Scouting, was a Deacon and Teacher in Priesthood. After his death, his father was proxy in the temple for him to become an Elder and be endowed. "You know I never will forget the day Papa brought home a bicycle for you all new. You jumped on it and were soon out of sight; so free and happy a bicycle boy I never saw before. . . . There is a letter your brother wrote you from his mission field. As you know, little Jean left us first, and then you--both while he was on his mission. It was to have reached you on your eighteenth birthday. . . . It had given you strength that short period of your life you remained after it reached you." Blaine's birthday was 8 April, and he died 2 August, 1924.

Raymond completed his mission. The next year he met Esther, and in 1928 they were married. He graduated in law from Stanford University in 1931, and his parents and grandparents drove to Palo Alto to be in attendance.



Back row: Ruth, Rachel, Jennie, Raymond,  
Mary, Blaine. Front: Vera, Helen, Elaine,  
Jean, Elizabeth



Helen, Mary, Jennie  
Elaine, Vera  
Provo 5th Ward in background.



Provo Stake Tabernacle, where the Holbrook Family went to conference.

While the children were small, Fay had sold his horse and surrey as part payment on a \$900.00 Baldwin piano for the family. The children took music lessons. In 1926 they moved into their new home. Fay writes, "We built our last Provo home on the north half of our lot. It was a duplex, with a lower and upper apartment. We occupied the upper and rented the lower to "Y" students. We sold the clinker brick home. . . . When needed and our children were all small, we had hired help. At an early age, all our children were efficient and willing helpers. Sina in all respects was truly a wonderful wife and mother, a great and confidential pal with our children, and a true genius in the way she organized the home living and the ease with which the responses never failed to come. Often in retrospect I return to the time when there were thirteen, including we parents to provide meals for, and very often in addition relatives and children's school friends. A big undertaking for any mother, especially for one whose average weight was not more than 105 pounds and who physically appeared delicate. Sina always seemed to truly enjoy every moment of the rearing period. She, with the help of the daughters, would put up eight or ten bushels of peaches and a like amount of the other fruits for our winter storage. For the major part of her life, her fingers in writing or other uses were remarkably speedy and efficient. Later when the joints of her fingers swelled, possibly from arthritis, the major part of our washing was always sent to the laundries. Even then, her writing was good, speedy, and voluminous and she said her fingers had not been painful."

He sums up their BYU activity: "Raymond, Rachel, Jennie, Helen, and Vera all graduated from the 'Y.' Raymond was studentbody president his last year; Rachel and Helen were studentbody secretaries, and Jennie was valedictorian of her graduating class. Marriages intervened before graduation with Mary, Ruth, Elisabeth, and Elaine. Mary graduated after marriage. Raymond, Rachel, Jennie, Mary, Helen, and Vera all were successful teachers before marriage, and Mary again resumed teaching after. . . . All our children reaching maturity were married in the L.D.S. temples to 'Y' students and all moved from Provo."

In 1934, Ruth and Ray and their baby were living in Washington, D. C., while Ray studied law, and they requested Helen, 17, to assist there. Her journey by auto was marred by a fatal accident, and so her parents chose to accompany her, and they spent several months together in the capital city.

#### Memories, Advancing Years

Sina regularly spent part of Sunday afternoon as well as other hours writing her personal history. Many accounts are found. Many are now retained by Jennie. These



include letters, personal journals, history of G. H. Brimhall, and his writings, genealogy, etc.

Marriages began in 1927 with Rachel's, and continued through Helen's and Vera's in 1941. As her father had foretold, Sina was a mother of mothers. Her daughters brought happy memories of motherhood into their marriages. L. H. Holbrook has published accounts in his family history. We will repeat just two, and refer you to his book. For the ideal reference giving marriages and all vital facts, we refer you to the family group sheets.

About the Christmas tradition, Mary relates: "I am reminded of a Christmas day after Santa had filled each one's stockings and chair to capacity, including lovely new dresses and dolls (such beautiful dolls) from Aunt Jennie and Uncle Will, how we formed a line headed south up the street of 3rd East to stop at Grandpa Brimhall's, Aunt Jennie and Uncle Will's, and on to Sister Jesse Knight's to wish them a Merry Christmas. Mother and Father proudly led the parade."

Helen relates cherished "memories of early morning walks with Mother, stopping to look at flowers along the ditch banks; of being in the berry patch three miles from home and seeing Mother appear at noontime with homemade ice cream and words of wisdom having walked all that distance by herself. I remember having her drop her ironing or cleaning and going clear down to North Park with us so we wouldn't be alone when we swam; of waking in the morning and seeing Mother finish the cleaning of bathroom shelves or kitchen floors begun while we were still asleep. I remember the rosebuds found on my dresser with a little note whenever I performed in some manner; stories from the Book of Mormon and sessions of reading and underlining together impressive passages; the way she made our prophets live by quoting from them in her everyday conversation; and the way she always looked for and found the good in people."

Advancing years were filled with writing, corresponding, visiting new grandchildren at birth, genealogy and family history. Undoubtedly she was advancing. In 1942, after his father died in Salt Lake City, Fay and Sina moved to Salt Lake and sold their Provo home. For a while they lived in the L. Holbrook home, 174 E. So. Temple, with his mother, who had fractured leg and hip. Fay bought the adjoining white cottage, then later sold the property. This location was near the Church Historian's office, genealogy library, and temple. Then they purchased a home on 1448 Browning Ave., remodeled it to include an upper and lower apartment, often rented to grandchildren of the Anderson family. Sina compiled in minute detail the history of her father, a treasure source for us.

Rachel died in 1946, honored not only by family, but also by community, and state. Sina and Fay celebrated fifty years of marriage in 1951, at which all their posterity except one missionary attended. In 1953, Sina was presented Brigham Young University Alumni Association Distinguished Service Award in recognition of outstanding service, "as a friend and neighbor, as a daughter and a wife, and as a mother whose wealth is the lives of her children, and her children's children; lives fashioned by the high ideals and principles that have dominated her own life in the home, the church and the community. Through your achievements you have enhanced the name and honor of the school which is proud to claim you as one of its outstanding alumni, and honor you with this award for distinguished service."

She left us many personal letters. We here choose to give a few excerpts from ours, which seem appropriate and illustrative:

1941: "I love you all dearly and hope you come often, but don't think I'm unhappy at seeming to be alone. I have a million things calling me. 'One is never less alone than when alone (GHB), 'a multitude of selves. . . .'"

1943, "I am asking the four oldest grandchildren to help me put the right things into a scrapbook. . . divided into departments of family groups. . . ."

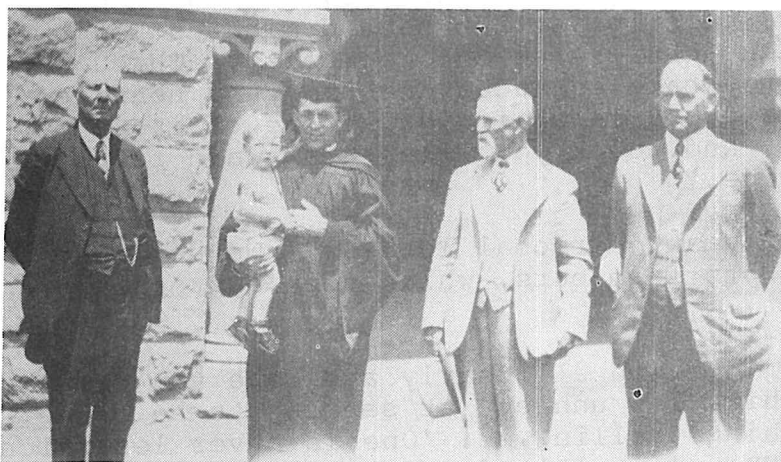
"May you know me as Grandma [and] forgive my funny ways."

"I am so glad you came to earth when you did and came to us. You have done much and we expect you to continue to shine in your day after the former galaxies have entered the shadows. . . ."

"Everyone else mostly gives you gifts that you enjoy now. The only hope I have in mine is that in future years you will find in this one some pearl of value to you. Have Mama put it in her Book of Genealogy and History. . . ."

"My trips on the plane were very high class, as you know. . . . I am sure you would like your newest little cousin. . . . My old friends in Canada thought me very old and I thought that very funny because I feel so young. I guess it's the wrinkles that Julia once said were ruffles. . . ."

Sina became ill in 1956, and some tests showed tuberculosis so she was isolated at home, where Fay cared for her tenderly until her death four years later. Her sister Jennie died 1 March 1957, and Sina died peacefully at home 26 July 1960.



Four generations at Palo Alto, Calif.  
for Raymond's graduation from Stanford:  
George H. Brimhall, Raymond holding Fay,  
Lafayette Holbrook, L. H. Holbrook

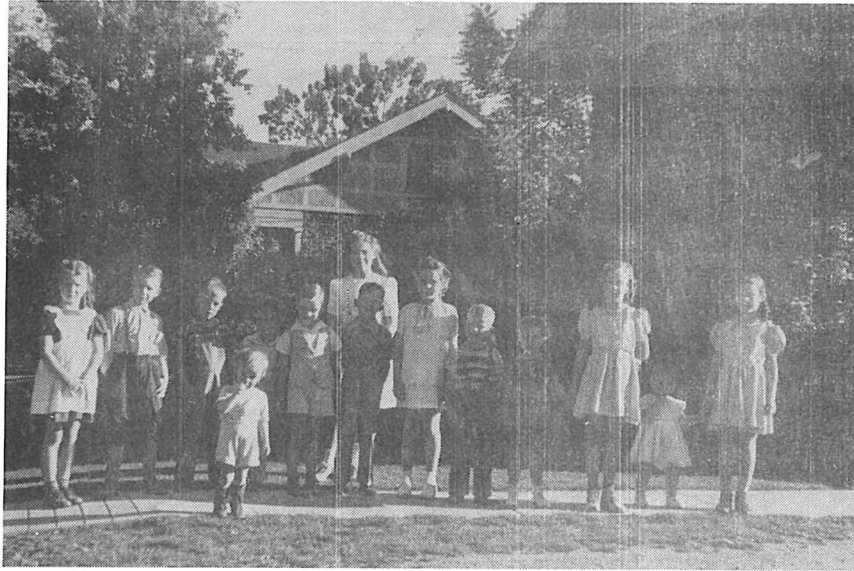


Come to visit Grandma--  
Rachel holding Ruth,  
Grandma holding Julia,  
Fay, Jane, Mary, Robert



Historic photo showing Robert Anderson (infant) with his parents,  
all his grandparents and great-grandparents

Grandma



Grandchildren visit Grandpa and Grandma Holbrook, Provo



Grandma Holbrook embraces David Groberg's bride, Lorraine. Grandpa follows as best man John Groberg smiles.

Chronology of Alsina Elizabeth Brimhall Holbrook

1. Childhood, Youth, Education

1852. 9 Dec., George Henry Brimhall born, Salt Lake City.
- 1856 7 May, Alsina Elizabeth Wilkins born, Spanish Fork, Utah Co., Utah Territory.
- 1874 5 Dec., Catherine Lovett Wilkins, mother of Alsina Wilkins Brimhall, dies, Spanish Fork, Utah. Alsina's parents encourage Alsina to go ahead with her wedding plans.  
28 Dec. George Brimhall and Alsina Elizabeth Wilkins are married in Salt Lake City, Endowment House. George chooses a career in education.
- 1875 13 Dec. Lucy Jane born to George H. and Alsina Brimhall, Spanish Fork, in one-room adobe home George H. has built himself.  
Brigham Young Academy opens, Provo. Karl G. Maeser teacher. George H. Brimhall enters.
1876. George Washington Wilkins (father of Alsina) has been called on a mission, so George H. and Alsina move into his home to care for the children.  
July 4. U. S. celebrates its centennial.  
16 Dec. Alsina Elizabeth Brimhall is born in Spanish Fork, in the home of her Wilkins grandparents.
- 1877 15 July. Lafayette Hinckley Holbrook born, Fillmore, Millard Co., Utah, son of Lafayette and Emily Angelina Hinckley Holbrook.  
George H. receives normal diploma from B. Y. A., and teaches in Spanish Fork.
- 1878 25 Oct. A brother to Lucy Jane and Sina is born in Spanish Fork, in a new house George has built across the road from his boyhood home.
- 1879 During her childhood Sina plays with her sister Jennie. They are free to play outdoors, and enjoy dolls, mud pies, and wild flowers.
- 1880 18 June. Mark Henry is born in the new home.
- 1881
- 1882 26 April. Wells Lovett is born in the new home. By this time George H. is principal of Spanish Fork schools. Sina attends school her father teaches. Then he chooses to tutor her and her sister at home.

- Later when she is old enough she and her sister go to the J. A. Rees grammar school in Spanish Fork.
- 1883 21 Oct. Milton Albert is born, but the mother is critically ill.  
1883-1887--G.H.B. is superintendent of Utah County schools.
- 1884 8 Jan. Milton Albert dies. Alsina Wilkins B. cannot recover from the high fever, and loses her capacities. Aunt Gustie (Alsina's older married sister) tends the children at the George H. Brimhall home. George purchases a home in town on a hill.  
George H. is now superintendent of Provo Schools as well as superintendent of Utah County schools. He begins teaching in either Central (Parker) School, or in Franklin School. (There is a discrepancy; both are elementary schools.)  
B. Y. Academy burns down; continues in new location in Provo.
- 1885 1 Sept. George H. receives his first salary from Brigham Young Academy, \$75.00 per month.  
3 Sept. Sina is baptized in old mill race by A.R.M. Beck.  
11 Sept. George H. marries Flora Robertson in Salt Lake City Endowment House.  
14 Nov. Alsina W. is hospitalized in the state mental institution, Provo, during its first year of operation.  
The family move to Provo overnight, and that winter Sina attends school at Central (Parker), or where her father teaches.  
George H. is reelected superintendent of Utah Co. District schools.  
Due to intensive prosecution of polygamists, many Church leaders, including President John Taylor, have to go "underground." The Church is appealing court rulings about bigamy laws.
- 1886 These are hard times for polygamists. During the next three years most Church leaders are in hiding.  
George H. is now associated with B.Y.A. faculty. He builds a home in Provo on 1st west and 1st north. Teachers serve under challenging conditions. Sina enjoys watching the teachers play croquet on his lot.
- 1887 11 Dec. Dean Robertson Brimhall is born, Provo.  
U. S. government confiscates most LDS Church property. Pres. John Taylor dies while in "exile" in Kaysville.

- 1888 Summer outings for Utah County teachers and their families are enjoyed. These combine instruction with recreation for teachers. G.H.B. is made Provo City School Superintendent.
- 1889 Provo is now a city of about 5,000. Probably because of B.Y. Academy and Karl G. Maeser, the Lafayette Holbrook family move from Fillmore to Provo. Their oldest son, Fay, remains that year in Fillmore, attending Millard Academy, due to the flu epidemic in Provo. George H., in a typical diary entry, tells of taking his boys to Spanish Fork to stay with their grandparents, after school. 7 March. GHB receives a message that Flora has been summoned to court on charge of cohabitation. 20 April. "Day of Deliverance." G. H. B. is tried in court. Judge suspends sentence. (This year Young Women's Journal begins a publication, which will later be renamed Improvement Era in 1929. G.H.B. will contribute.) Wilford Woodruff is sustained president of the Church. (First general Relief Society Conference is held, Salt Lake City.) George H. does a great deal of traveling, lecturing, presiding, teaching, supervising, Priesthood activity, as well as some farming. He lectures before teachers institute on School Organization.
- 1890 Sina lives for a few years with grandparents in Spanish Fork. Pres. Woodruff issues "Manifesto," declaring that polygamy has been discontinued. It is accepted by General Conference, 6 Oct. Free public schools are established by state law.
- 1891 G. H. B. accepts a teaching position at B.Y.A., for \$20.00 a month. L. H. Holbrook enrolls at B.Y.A. in old ZCMI warehouse. His first teachers are G. H. B. and N. L. Nelson. Benjamin Cluff, B.Y.A. assistant Principal, establishes summer school.
- 1892 These are hard times financially. Sina attends 14th Ward school in Salt Lake City under the name of Sina Wilkins. (It is located about First West and 2nd South.) Jan. 3. B.Y.A. moves to its new building. At its dedication, Karl G. Maeser is honored. Benjamin Cluff is installed as new principal. Church Board of Education has been formed (1888), with Karl G. Maeser as chairman, and he therefore

- leaves B.Y.A.  
 Famous Educator, Col. Francis W. Parker, teaches with Maeser and B. Cluff at summer school. Parker School, which is named in his honor, has a boiler installed. Relief Society is incorporated. W. S. Rawlings is Provo superintendent of schools.
- 25 May. G. H. B. receives BYA degree, Bachelor of Pedagogy, as one of the first class to graduate, Normal Training School (for teachers). He acts as principal, Normal Dept., BYA. He is in charge of preparatory school and assistant professor, Pedagogy dept.
- 1893 Sina graduates from grades in Salt Lake City. 20 Aug. Sina receives patriarchal blessing from her grandfather G.W. Brimhall, Spanish Fork, at her grandparents' home. It inspires her life.
- Sina enrolls at B.Y.A. She meets L. H. Holbrook, when she is 17. A year later he asks her out. Sina is a student of her father's pedagogy class, to study the theory of teaching. B.Y.A. accounts for four years of high school and two years of college.
- 27 Sept., G. H. B. teaches at B.Y.A., is Normal School principal, assistant to Professor Benjamin Cluff, the administrator.
- 6 April. Salt Lake Temple dedicated. U. S. laws begin returning property and rights to L.D.S. Tabernacle Choir sings at Chicago World's Fair, wins second place.
- 1894 1 Nov., Genealogical Society of the Church is organized.
- 1895 30 June. George Washington Brimhall dies. G.H.B. goes to Denver, attends National Education Association convention.
- 1896 Utah admitted as a state in the union.
- 1897 G. H.B. serves short term mission (23 July-29 Aug.) to Colorado, set apart by Elder John W. Taylor with a blessing to take needed rest. (Improvement Era begins as voice of YMMIA.) Sina receives degree in Pedagogy (how to teach). She wears cap and gown. Fay (L. H. Holbrook) is called to the New Zealand Mission. He is given a going-away party by Delia and Eva Maeser at their home. He takes Sina



aside in the garden, gives her a gift and asks her to wait, true to him while he serves his mission.

July. L. H. H. leaves on mission.

Sina teaches school, Springville, corresponds with L. H. H.

1898

26 Jan. Sina receives a patriarchal blessing by stake patriarch, Charles D. Evans, Springville, where she lives with her friend, Ida Alleman. She continues teaching, and corresponding with Fay.

28 April. First Presidency issue statement encouraging L.D.S. youth to support U. S. in Spanish-American War.

1 Sept. Lorenzo Snow becomes 5th president of the Church.

G.H.B. suffers poor health during 1898-9. He also works on YMMIA manual with Milton Hardy.

1899

18 Jan. Lucy Jane (Jennie) is married to Jessie William Knight.

G.H.B. spends much of the summer camping with friends and family, as well as lecturing at Teachers Institutes.

L.H.H. asks Sina in a letter to marry him.

G.H.B. acts as president of B.Y.A. as Cluff leads Zarahemla expedition to South America.

Sina begins teaching school in the fall, Spanish Fork, living with her Grandma Brimhall near the schoolhouse.

14 July. Sina and other family members go with G.H.B. to Uintah Co. for Teachers Institute, combined with camping outing.

In August Sina goes with him to institute outing at Castilla.

1900

In May Sina gets leave of absence to tour with L. H. H. in Europe.

11 May. Sina is endowed in Salt Lake Temple prior to her trip.

She meets her missionary and his mission president, Ezra Stevenson in London. She travels with Clara Holbrook, Fay's sister, who remains to fill a mission in England. They visit the World's Fair in Paris, "Century of Progress." They visit also British Isles, France, Switzerland, Germany, Netherlands, Eastern Canada, and U.S.A.

Sina returns to teach school until marriage the next spring. Fay enrolls at B.Y.A.

1901

Sina finds herself tired and resigns her teaching position in the spring to prepare for her marriage. By her father's counsel she has a lifetime teaching certificate.

15 May. Sina and Fay are married in the Salt Lake Temple. Their parents are present. G.H.B. introduces them as a young couple come to begin a kingdom. After the ceremony, they are feted by family and friends at a dinner and dance.

## 2. Marriage and Motherhood

- 1901 15 May. Fay and Sina are married in Salt Lake Temple by an Apostle, George Teasdale. Later Sina wrote, "Not until that event was consummated did I feel that I had found my life's project." Fay and Sina move to Canada, joining Jennie and Will Knight in Raymond, Alta., as pioneer colonizers. Fay builds a home. He is the first Sunday School superintendent of Raymond; she is president of Young Ladies Mutual Improvement Association.
- 1902 May 16. Raymond, their son, is born, the first boy born in Raymond, Alta., Canada. They associate closely with Jennie and Will.
- 1903 Dec. 6. Rachel is born, as promised by the patriarch. G.H.B. and the Knights are present. During this period, L. H. H. has borrowed more than \$7,000.00 to buy cattle, which are frozen by the severe winter, but he promises to pay the debt, and does. G.H.B. is installed as president of Brigham Young University, and its name changed from Academy.
- 1904 Four years in Canada were a "successful failure." Sina and Fay and the two children return to Provo. Then on urging of relatives L.H.H. begins medical school at George Washington Medical School, St. Louis, Mo. Sina and the babies visit the World's Fair there often. Sina returns to Provo with the children.
- 1905 L.H.H. goes to 2nd year of medical school in Philadelphia. Sina and children remain in Provo. Fay returns, having "finally and firmly said Goodbye to medicine." They establish their home on a chicken, cow and fruit farm.
- 1906 8 April. George Blaine is born on the chicken farm.
- 1907
- 1908 3 March. Jennie is born on the farm. Sina's three brothers have been married by the year's end.
- 1909

- 1910 2 March. Mary is born on the farm. It is a dairy, but Fay finds help to keep Sina free of dairy chores.
- 1911 Fay sells the farm, and moves his family into a clinker brick home he has built in Provo. He works as a mining representative.
- 1912 8 Jan. Ruth is born in the clinker brick "mansion."
- 1913 L. H. H. goes on business venture to San Diego and falls in love with California. He wants to move there, but Sina is content in Provo.
- 1914 Fay buys three top dairy cows, raises prize-winning chickens, and gardens. They sell milk and take in student boarders to pay grocery bills. Fay recovers from kidney stone attack, and receives first x-rays.  
9 Feb. Elizabeth born in clinker brick home. Although the World War starts, Sina barely mentions it. Flu epidemic hits the community. During this period Fay buys a farm in Lynndyl, Sevier Co., as an investment. He moves to the farm with the three oldest children, his brother Lincoln, and his Mother who keeps house. Sina and the others join them, but find the home too small.  
Fay buys his first Model T Ford. They go in it to Fish Lake, Strawberry, etc. with Brimhalls, Knights, and others, hunting and fishing.
- 1915 7 Oct. Jean is born, Provo.  
Fay supports the family with mining interests and sells woolen goods for Knight Woolen Mills for several years. The children take music lessons.
- 1916 During this period Fay goes into hay, grain, and produce business, and looks into prospects in California for a wholesale brokerage business. He is economically independent, and considerate of his wife's comfort.
- 1917 8 July. Helen is born.
- 1918 29 Oct. Vera is born.  
Fay buys a fine Baldwin piano for \$900.00, turning in his horse and surrey as part payment.

- 1919 During this period Raymond earns money selling chickens he raises.  
G.H.B. visits each week in the home of the L. H. Holbrooks for many years.
- 1920 11 Aug. Alsina Elaine is born.  
With nine daughters, Fay decides to sell the Lynndyl farm. He enjoys taking Raymond hunting, fishing, and to sports events.
- 1921 Sina is setting "13 places at the table 3 times a day," and often has guests on Sunday. She joins Raymond and Fay in California. While there Raymond receives mission call.
- 1922 Raymond serves a mission in Colorado. No more will there be the 13 together.
- 1923 Jean is seriously injured in an accident on a summer outing. After Will Knight administers to her she recovers temporarily, but dies 26 Aug. This is the day of the dedication of the Canadian Temple, and so Will and Jennie send their condolences from there. This is the first time since her marriage that Sina becomes ill, except for childbirth.  
Nov.  
Rachel, teaching school in Shelley, Idaho, suffers ruptured appendix. Sina and Fay go to her for three weeks, then bring her home, "the family's Christmas present."
- 1924 Fay and Sina visit Raymond on his mission.  
2 Aug. Blaine, 18, dies of pleurisy.
- 1925 During the period of about 1920-1940, the Holbrooks have children attending B.Y.U. Raymond milks cows, except when Sina asks Fay to milk so Raymond can sleep in, after special occasions.
- 1926 10 Jan. Alsina Elizabeth Wilkins Brimhall dies, Provo. She has been hospitalized about 40 years, but dies in her husband's home with the family present.  
Jennie, 15, is secretary to a pump company. The children pick berries.
- 1927 25 May. Rachel marries Robert Clair Anderson of Manti.
- 1928 24 Aug. Raymond marries Esther Ruth Hamilton.
- 1930 11 June. Jennie marries Delbert V. Groberg.
- 1931 Raymond graduates from law school, at Stanford,

- 1931 Raymond graduates from law school, at Stanford, Palo Alto, Calif. Both the L.H. Holbrooks and G. H. Brimhalls attend.
- 1931 27 May. Mary marries B. A. Maxwell, and Ruth marries F. R. Brown in double ceremony.
- 1932 29 July. GHB dies, Provo.  
Sina is writing her personal history, utilizing Sunday afternoons and vacation outings. Six of their children will teach school before marriage.
- 1933 Sina gives a beautiful talk, "Dangers on the Horizon," recorded in L.H. Holbrook history. She says, "This summer we visited Chicago."
- 1934 19 Sept. Elizabeth marries A. K. Berry. Sina and Fay go to Washington D. C. with Helen to stay with Ruth, Ray, and baby.
- 1935-1940  
The girls remember many happy times, their mother doing little things to beautify their lives, and their father's hunting and fishing.
- 1936 Sina travels to welcome new grandchildren and assist their mothers, during many years.
- 1937
- 1938 21 Dec. Elaine marries J. Arnold Haymore.
- 1939-40
- 1941 1 Jan. Lafayette Holbrook (Fay's father) dies.  
5 June. Vera marries M. K. Heninger.  
1 Aug. Helen marries Carlyle A. Dahlquist.

### 3. Advancing Years

With the family married the closing chapter of Sina's life begins, to continue with joy and companionship.

The last twenty years of her life are filled with temple work, genealogy, and gathering the history of her father in minute detail. She assists Fay to prepare his family history, published shortly after her death. She also visits each family when a new grandchild is born, and corresponds with her children and grandchildren. During much of the time some of the Anderson grandchildren occupy their basement apartment. Their home is a center for the family to gather during semi-annual General Conference. A few highlights for the chronology:

- 1942 Fay and Sina move from Provo to Salt Lake City. They live temporarily in the L. Holbrook home, 174 E. So. Temple, and buy their white cottage and home, which they later sell. Fay and Sina purchase and move into their last home, 1448 Browning Ave.
- 1946 17 June. Rachel dies in Manti.
- 1953 Sina receives B.Y.U. award, for family living.
- 1956 Sina becomes ill, is isolated at home, and cared for by Fay.
- 1957 1 March, her sister Jennie dies.
- 1960 26 July, Sina dies peacefully at her home.



Jennie Brimhall and Will Knight



Family group in early 1920s, showing Aunt Jennie and Uncle Will on the right

SOME MEMORIES OF GRANDMA HOLBROOK BY GRANDCHILDREN

1. Robert Anderson: When I was about 16 years old, I had a summer job with one of the turkey growers in Manti. In those days, it was thought that turkeys should have someone caring for them at all times, including Sunday. Grandma Holbrook was visiting with us for a few days. I recall very well that she took a dim view of my working on the Sabbath and was close to restraining me physically from doing it. Out of that experience, I formed a resolve that I was going to find a life's work that didn't require Sunday work.

She was a stickler for family prayer. When she took care of us in our parents' absence, she always insisted we have family prayer. I think I was a teacher at the time and she had me call on the person to pray. For quite a while there, I didn't take my turn but finally got the idea.

When we lived in the basement of the Holbrook home in Salt Lake, we would occasionally have breakfast with the grandparents. Grandpa like to have what he called, "the combination;" that is, the prayer and blessing on the food all in one stroke. He would make some justification for the practice each time, but I could tell from the look on Grandma's face that she had grave doubts as to whether it was all perfectly acceptable.

2. Mary Jane Fritzen: Some of us young cousins were visiting in Provo at Grandma's. While the adults visited within, Grandma spread a blanket on the front lawn and invited us to sit on it and look up at the stars in the summer sky. Then she gave us each a peppermint. She knew how to associate learning with something pleasant.

When I went on my mission in 1956, Grandma was interested in me, and said that there would be a whirlwind and wonderful week in the missionary home, and then the mission period would be over before I knew it. This answered my misgivings about giving so much time to the mission. It put into perspective the experience, and made it seem easier.

When I was a very young adult, she said, "You can be one who does the teaching, not just one who is taught."

(M. J. Groberg Fritzen)

3. Diane Brown: She used to pull Fay and me in the wagon clear to Pioneer Park to wade in the ditch. She would show us different flowers and sometimes we would gather a sack of black walnuts. One of the favorite things for the cousins to do was march around the "circle" in Grandma's house wearing paper hats while she played a march. Grandpa would be in a chair in the front room and would grin at us when we marched past him. She had such a positive, caring way about her. I always knew I was special and loved.

(D. Holbrook Brown)

4. Julia Blair: When I remember Grandma, I see my mother's absolute devotion to her mother. Mother believed that her mother was really very near perfection, and she was. I see her coming out at one of the receptions, her hair just beginning to turn silver, her small, strong frame making the lace dress majestic, her lovely smile making everyone awed by her beauty feel comfortable. I remember the simple and conservative way she ate and her insistence that we sit quietly by the radio and listen to conference. I remember her kindness. I especially remember her making friends with a neighbor of ours who had problems coping with the large, energetic Groberg family. I was startled and amazed when I saw Grandma walking home from Church arm in arm with this neighbor. If I were to name one quality which stands foremost, it would have to be Faith; next to this would be Love, then Determination.

(J. Groberg Blair)



5. John Groberg: My main memory was of her staying with us when new babies were born. We didn't appreciate it too much when she wouldn't let us get to Mom, but we realized she was helping Mom and the baby. Once when we were at 1448 Browning and just ready to return home, I ran to the car, jumped in and quickly slammed the door. Dad started to drive away when Mom screamed to stop. Grandma's fingers were caught in the door. I remember sinking down and thinking I would really catch it now. But Grandma's thoughts were of me, "Now Jennie and Delbert, don't be hard on John. He didn't mean to. Please drop it." I also remember being amazed at all of Grandma's genealogy books. I thought she must be the world's best genealogist.

6. Nora Mae Brown: I guess the thing I always felt from Grandma was lots of love, shown in quiet and patient ways. At one of the wedding preparations she happily gathered us at little tables under the shade of a tree and helped us make little books; when she visited us in Holbrook, Arizona, she would walk to school with us; many times we made cookies with her; she wrote me many letters over the years. She would get up early and do her church work and letter writing so there would be time for her family during the day. I remember my mother telling me about Grandmother walking in the snow to get a rose to leave with a note for my mother when they had had a disagreement about someone mother dated.  
(Nora Mae Brown)

7. Floyd Brown: When I was about ten years old and living on 7th East in Salt Lake City, we were lucky enough to have Grandma Holbrook come to tend us. On Halloween she enlisted me in the project of making some cookies from the sour milk she found in the refrigerator. We had 147 cookies ready for the Halloweeners when we finished the job. Later that night I stayed out later than I should have with my "trick-or-treating." I headed for home, not knowing what to expect. There waiting for me was my little grandmother, patient and loving, but firmly putting it in my mind that I was old enough to be more responsible.

I never walk out on a starlit night with one of my sons without recalling another visit with Grandma Holbrook when she told me the story of an Old Testament prophet who as a boy would look up at the stars and resolve to live his life in pure service to God. She gave to me a framework for life which is still being passed on.

8. Louienne Hunter: Grandma was the most perfect person I have ever known. When she gave out advice, I listened, and absorbed it, and felt like it was, "Thus sayeth the Lord!" When I was a teen-ager, she said, "When you marry, don't plan to work. Don't ever take that responsibility from your husband. It does something to a man. And a marriage shouldn't have two tired, irritable people coming home at night." After I married, I was at her home in Salt Lake. John and the other men had gone to General Priesthood meeting at Conference. I slowly became aware that Grandma didn't think much of the TV I was watching so I turned it off. After a while, she said, "It's a good idea when your husband is at a spiritual meeting, to do something spiritual so that when he returns you'll both be in tune." (L. Berry Hunter)

9. David Berry: Sometimes at bedtime she would sit on my bed and tell me Bible and Book of Mormon stories. One time she singled out Nephi. She painted beautiful word pictures and told me stories so I could understand him better. Then she strengthened my self-image and gave me a challenge by saying, "David, you are a lot like Nephi. You should study his life so you can accomplish good things like he did."

While I was on my mission, I received encouraging and inspirational letters from her. When I later attended BYU it was fun to bring my friends by to meet my grandparents because they loved people and would make us feel that they were interested in each one. Because of her powerful example in living a righteous life, the Spirit was able to add great impact to her words and deeds and indelibly stamp them into the memories of those who knew her.

10. Valerie Birtcher: I always looked forward to her Saturday visits because she seemed to understand that young girls hate to scrub bathtubs, and would help me complete this task without saying anything to anyone else. When I was at their home, she would let me look at the trunk of treasures, which were obviously precious to Grandma, if I would handle them with care and reverence. Sometimes I would bring home a cloth book made by Grandma into which I could paste or write. She would let me choose a fabric and then pages were added to be stitched down the middle on the sewing machine. All of these things strengthened the conviction which Grandma gave to each of us that we were important people who had the ability from God to be strong and righteous in our own right.  
(V. Haymore Birtcher)

11. Dan Haymore: One of the places Grandma liked to visit was the Church Office Building next to Temple Square. Often she would take Valerie or me with her. On one such visit, we arrived at the huge front doors but never made it inside. Grandma was about five feet tall and weighed about one hundred pounds. In trying to wrestle the door open, something happened and she badly mashed her finger. She and I examined the split end and then she calmly announced, "Danny, I will have to get this taken care of." The doctor's office was right across the street and Grandma was soon seen as an emergency. Since stitches were needed, an injection of novocain with the large, old-time syringe was prepared. Grandma fainted dead away. Since the doctor already had hold of Grandma's arm, he guided her to a gentle landing and used this opportunity to finish the sewing. I just stood there with my five-year old eyes wide open. Later Grandma and I returned home.

Grandma would often come to our house with some inspirational material, much of it handwritten and bound with brown paper bag material. On one of these "delivery" visits, my brother John and I proudly showed her our "underground hut," which had taken a fair part of the summer to dig. It consisted of long secret tunnel entrances leading to a large living area. Most of the neighborhood kids knew of the hut but could not find the entrances and we would never reveal its whereabouts. To my great amazement, Grandma deemed our underground network unsafe. She was greatly worried that there would be a cave-in upon us. For the next several days we boys sadly covered up our summer project. The neighbor kids watched with little smiles on their faces as our great secret was exposed and destroyed.

12. Richard Groberg: She seemed to love all members of the extended family and especially enjoyed it when the cousins associated with each other. I remember sleeping on the living room floor with members of our family and other cousins. Grandma fed us and seemed to rejoice as we all became friends and concerned with each other.

Once when Mom had a new baby, Grandma asked us to go to bed and refrain from jumping as we were above Mom's bedroom. She threatened to spank us if we continued. I put a light thin book in my pajamas and she actually spanked me several times, hitting the book. I felt bad later and hoped she'd never bring it up. She didn't.

13. Gloria Pehrson: Grandma believed drinking lots of liquids would help children stay healthy and make them better if ill. She used to mail us boxes of straws to encourage our drinking larger quantities of fluids. It was so fun to watch the mailman stuff a rectangle shaped box in our mailbox so we would have plenty of straws. I remember her molasses cookie dough that we rolled and cut with round jar rings. Grandma said they were "healthy" and they smelled delicious when baking.  
(G. Haymore Pehrson)

14. Annette Eliason: When we went to visit her she always made us feel special. I remember the big dining room table we would eat dinner around and how nice everything seemed at her table. Once, when I was sick at her house, she didn't just put me to bed but seemed to stay by my bed most of the time, reading stories and entertaining me. I remember making a picture pedigree chart with her for my book of remembrance. She used to walk me to the bus and put me on to go to Gloria's house and tell the driver where to let me off. I thought that was really an adventure. (A. Brown Eliason)
15. Beth Stratton: I remember the letters she sent to me on my birthdays and special occasions, the genealogy usually spread over the dining room buffet and table, but mostly I remember the great warmth and love felt in her presence. She used to have me play my piano pieces and called me a "songbird." (B. Groberg Stratton)
16. Mary Jean Albrechtson: Once when Grandma was at our house we had lost a ball. We looked and looked for it and Grandma finally came outside to help us. She said, "Always make sure that where you have looked doesn't have to be searched again. Be thorough." In later years, when we moved into their home, I was able to read through some of her memoirs. The one I recall vividly was, "When I came home from my mutual meetings, what dearer sight than to see sweet Rachel with her head nodding as she rocked the little baby til I got there. Two angels to me surely." (M. J. Maxwell A....)
17. Joseph Groberg: She was always gentle and sweet. When we injured the roses or apricots or the beautiful garden, we counted on, and received, understanding from Grandma Holbrook. I remember once being instructed by her at our house. We had washed for a simple lunch and after the meal, she showed us the towels from the bathroom. One could see the dirty handprints on them. She then explained how one washes with soap and water-- how the dirt comes off in the basin and goes down the drain with the suds. Then she showed us how clean hands are dried on clean towels that get a little wet but stay clean. It was graphic and not forgotten.
18. John Holbrook: Grandma's influence was one of goodness and dedication to eternal principles. I recall as a young boy scout traveling with a group of scouts, whom I did not know, to Irvine Ranch in southern California. Grandma Holbrook had great insight concerning the challenges facing her children and grandchildren. She knew this was my first trip away from home. Consequently she wrote me a very special letter reminding me of my heritage and the opportunity I had to be an influence for good on those around me. The letter was written in advance of my departure and was there upon my arrival at the boy scout camp. I have thought many times about this example of concern and love for one of her many grandchildren.
19. Kathleen Crapo: My earliest memories of Grandma were sitting on her soft bed watching as she rolled up her hair in rag curls. She kept laughing and saying how funny she looked. The next day I watched her comb it out and thought the soft white curls were beautiful. She often talked to me about genealogy. She would pile the large books on the dining room table and tell me who all the people in the little round pictures were and why they were important. I first heard about our relationship to Abraham Lincoln and Powhatton from her. Grandma's letters to me seemed to have a sense of love and urgency. I always felt that there was much she felt I should do, that life was full and fast and important things could not wait. (K. Dahlquist Crapo)

20. Carol Christensen: I cannot say when my first memories of Grandma Holbrook are because it seems she was there as far back as my memories go. I think as a child I felt I remembered being with her in the councils in Heaven because she was such a wonderful influence with me. One early memory that both Phil and I have is of Grandma reading us the Book of Mormon. We loved it. Nephi, Lehi, Laman, and Lemuel were all so real and meaningful to us. One summer we spent at the red brick home in Provo. For some reason, one night I got to sleep with Grandma. We both knelt by the bedside before we retired, and talked silently to our Father-in-Heaven. When I awoke the next morning there was grandma on her knees again for a long time. I waited, wondering what she was doing. She said, "Oh, I am just saying 'Good Morning' to Heavenly Father."

She always told me I was a "special spirit," and treated me as if I were one so I felt special and good around her. I know she affected others the same way because I have seen her in the presence of pretty rough people and she seemed to be able to look beyond the rough exterior and make them feel they had something special, too. She truly brought out the best in others.

(C. Maxwell Christensen)

**HUSBAND** Lafayette Hinckley HOLBROOK

Born 15 July 1877 Place Fillmore, Millard, Utah

Chr. 15 May 1901 Place Salt Lake City, S-Lk, Utah

Marr. 6 Aug 1969 Place Salt Lake City, S-Lk, Utah

Bur. 9 Aug 1969 Place Provo City Cemetery, Provo, Utah

HUSBAND'S FATHER Lafayette HOLBROOK

HUSBAND'S MOTHER Emily Angelena HINCKLEY

Husband Lafayette Hinckley HOLBROOK

Wife Aisina Elizabeth BRIMHALL

WIFE Aisina Elizabeth BRIMHALL

Born 16 Dec 1876 Place Spanish Fork, Utah, Utah

Chr. 26 July 1900 Place Salt Lake City, S-Lk, Utah

Bur. 29 July 1960 Place Provo City Cemetery, Provo, Utah

WIFE'S FATHER George Henry BRIMHALL

WIFE'S MOTHER Aisina Elizabeth HINCKLEY

Wife Aisina Elizabeth BRIMHALL

Husband Lafayette Hinckley HOLBROOK

**CHILDREN**

SEX	Given Names	SURNAME	WHEN BORN	TOWN	WHERE BORN	COUNTY	STATE OR COUNTRY	DATE OF FIRST MARRIAGE TO WHOM	WHEN DIED	RELATION OF ABOVE TO HUSBAND	RELATION OF ABOVE TO WIFE	DATE SUBMITTED TO GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY	SEATED FOR THE CHILDREN TO FATHER
M	Raymond	HOLBROOK	16 March 1902	Raymond	Alberta	Canada	Canada	24 Aug 1928	17 June 1946	HUSBAND	WIFE	December 10, 1979	15 May 190
F	Rachel	HOLBROOK	6 Dec 1903	Raymond	Alberta	Canada	Canada	25 May 1927	19 June 1977	WIFE	HUSBAND	December 10, 1979	11 May 1900
M	George Blaine	HOLBROOK	3 Apr 1906	Provo	Utah	Utah	Utah	11 June 1930	2 Aug 1924	HUSBAND	WIFE	December 10, 1979	27 March 1925
F	Jennie	HOLBROOK	3 March 1908	Provo	Utah	Utah	Utah	27 May 1932	19 June 1977	WIFE	HUSBAND	December 10, 1979	11 June 1930
F	Mary	HOLBROOK	2 March 1910	Provo	Utah	Utah	Utah	27 May 1932	19 June 1977	WIFE	HUSBAND	December 10, 1979	11 June 1930
F	Ruth	HOLBROOK	8 Jan 1912	Provo	Utah	Utah	Utah	27 May 1932	19 June 1977	WIFE	HUSBAND	December 10, 1979	11 June 1930
F	Elizabeth	HOLBROOK	9 Feb 1914	Provo	Utah	Utah	Utah	19 Sep 1934	26 Aug 1923	WIFE	HUSBAND	December 10, 1979	11 June 1930
F	Jean	HOLBROOK	7 Oct 1915	Provo	Utah	Utah	Utah	19 Sep 1934	26 Aug 1923	WIFE	HUSBAND	December 10, 1979	11 June 1930
F	Helen	HOLBROOK	8 July 1917	Provo	Utah	Utah	Utah	1 Aug 1941		WIFE	HUSBAND	December 10, 1979	11 June 1930
F	Vera	HOLBROOK	29 Oct 1918	Provo	Utah	Utah	Utah	5 June 1941		WIFE	HUSBAND	December 10, 1979	11 June 1930
F	Aisina Elaine	HOLBROOK	11 Aug 1920	Provo	Utah	Utah	Utah	21 Dec 1938		WIFE	HUSBAND	December 10, 1979	11 June 1930

Records in possession of Jennie Holbrook Groberg, Idaho Falls, Idaho.  
See accompanying sheet for documentation. History book by L. H. Holbrook,  
obitaries, certificates of birth, marriage, baptism.

**HUSBAND** George Henry BRIMHALL

Born 9 Dec. 1852 Place Salt Lake City, Salt Lake, Utah

Chr. 28 Dec. 1874 Place Salt Lake City, Salt Lake, Utah

Mar. 29 July 1932 Place Provo, Utah, Utah

Died 1 Aug. 1932 Place Provo, Utah, Utah

Bur. 1 Aug. 1932 Place Provo, Utah, Utah

HUSBAND'S FATHER George Washington BRIMHALL

HUSBAND'S MOTHER Rachel Ann MAYER

WIFE Alstina Elizabeth WILKINS

Born 7 May 1856 Place Spanish Fork, Utah, Utah

Chr. 10 Jan 1926 Place Provo, Utah, Utah

Bur. 12 Jan 1926 Place Provo, Utah, Utah

WIFE'S FATHER George Washington WILKINS

WIFE'S MOTHER Catherine Augusta LOVETT

WIFE'S OTHER also spelled Augusta

HUSBANDS

WIFE'S OTHER also spelled Augusta

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HUSBANDS

Husband George Henry BRIMHALL  
Wife Alstina Elizabeth WILKINS

NAME & ADDRESS OF PERSON SUBMITTING SHEET  
Mary Jane Fritzen  
390 Lincoln Drive  
Idaho Falls, Idaho 83401

RELATION OF ABOVE TO HUSBAND RELATION OF ABOVE TO WIFE

FOUR GENERATION SHEETS FOR FILING ONLY  
YES  NO

DATE SUBMITTED TO GENERAL SOCIETY  
December, 1979

LDS ORDINANCE DATA  
BAPTIZED (date) ENDOWED (date) SEATED (date)  
HUSBAND 4 March 1864 16 Jan 1871 28 Dec 1874

WIFE 22 May 1864 28 Dec 1874 SEATED (date) and FILING CHILDREN TO NAME

1 Aug 1884 18 Mar 1898 B. I. C.

3 Sep 1885 11 May 1900 B. I. C.

1 Aug 1889 4 Apr 1906 B. I. C.

1 Aug 1889 25 Oct 1901 B. I. C.

4 June 1891 14 Oct 1904 B. I. C.

child child B. I. C.

child child B. I. C.

child child B. I. C.

child child B. I. C.

child child B. I. C.

child child B. I. C.

child child B. I. C.

child child B. I. C.

child child B. I. C.

child child B. I. C.

child child B. I. C.

child child B. I. C.

child child B. I. C.

**SOURCES OF INFORMATION**

Diary of George Henry Brimhall, obituaries, early Spanish Fork records, history and records of Alstina B. Holbrook, of Gladys B. Corbett, Mrs. Mark H. Brimhall, Mrs. Kenneth R. Stevens, Mrs. Fern S. Brimhall; Endowment House Sealings, and Temple Index Bureau. See attached sheet itemized sources.

**OTHER MARRIAGES**

Mark married (?) 16 June 1944  
Martha Alice Garfield Kay.

**NECESSARY EXPLANATIONS**

Early Spanish Fork Ward Records give birth date of George Washington Brimhall as 25 Oct 1878, even though tombstone birth date is 21 Oct 1874.

HUSBAND BRIMHALL, George Henry

Born 9 Dec. 1852

Chr. \_\_\_\_\_

Marr. 11 Sept. 1885

Died 29 July 1932

HUSBAND'S GIVEN NAME (A) WILKINS, Alstina

HUSBAND'S MOTHER MAYER, Rachael Ann

WIFE ROBERTSON, Flora

Born 14 March 1865

Chr. \_\_\_\_\_

Died 1 May 1950

WIFE'S FATHER ROBERTSON, James

WIFE'S MOTHER GRAHAM, Matilda

WIFE'S OTHER HUSBANDS \_\_\_\_\_

CHILDREN

1 M BRIMHALL, Dean Robertson

2 F BRIMHALL, Fay (twin)

3 F BRIMHALL, Fawn (twin)

4 M BRIMHALL, Burns Robertson

5 F BRIMHALL, Ruth Afton

6 M BRIMHALL, Paul Robertson

7 F BRIMHALL, Alta

8 M BRIMHALL, Golden Henry

9 M BRIMHALL, Aroo Robertson

10 \_\_\_\_\_

11 \_\_\_\_\_

Husband BRIMHALL, George Henry

Wife ROBERTSON, FLORA

Word 1. C J D

Examiner: 2.

State or TERRITORY Stakes

Mission

NAME & ADDRESS OF PERSON SUBMITTING RECORD

CUMMINGS, Fay B.

2031 Pauleys Canyon Blvd.

Salt Lake City, Utah

1852

FAMILY REPRESENTATIVE

ANDERSON (Mrs) Ruth Cummings

RELATION OF F.R. TO HUSBAND RELATION OF F.R. TO WIFE

Grand. Depts. Grand. Depts.

TEMPLE ORDINANCE DATA

BAPTIZED (DATE) ENDOWED (DATE)

4. March 1864 16 Jan. 1871

11 Sept. 1885

11 Sept. 1885

11 Sept. 1885

11 Sept. 1885

11 Sept. 1885

11 Sept. 1885

11 Sept. 1885

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11 Sept. 1885

11 Sept. 1885

11 Sept. 1885

11 Sept. 1885

11 Sept. 1885

11 Sept. 1885

11 Sept. 1885

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

BRIMHALL Family Records  
c/o Estrella Calderwood Marchant  
2740 Estella Lane  
Salt Lake City, Utah

OTHER MARRIAGES

#4 Became Widower  
Marr: PALMER, Florence 22 May 1922

NECESSARY EXPLANATIONS

**HUSBAND** BRIMHALL, George Washington 1911  
 born 14 Nov 1814 Place South Trenton, Oneida, New York

Chr. 3 Feb 1852 Place Endowment House, S-Lk, Utah  
 Mar. 30 Sept 1895 Place Spanish Fork, Utah, Utah  
 Bur. HUSBAND'S BRIMHALL, Sylvanus II HUSBAND'S GUTTFEAU, Lydia  
 HUSBANDS OTHER WIVES (1) MERCALF, Lucretia (Std 21 June 1892 MR)

**WIFE** MAYER, Rachel Ann  
 born 9 Feb 1829 Place Bagyrus, Crawford, Ohio  
 Chr. 20 Feb 1914 Place Spanish Fork, Utah, Utah  
 Bur. 22 Feb 1917 Place Spanish Fork, Utah, Utah  
 FATHER MAYER, George WIFE'S MOTHER, YOST, Ann

SEX	CHILDREN	WHEN BORN	WHERE BORN	STATE OR COUNTY	DATE OF FIRST MARRIAGE TO WHOM	WHEN DIED	RELATION OF F.N. TO HUSBAND	RELATION OF F.N. TO WIFE	SEALING
M	Full born child (unborn children of dead) in order of birth	DAY MONTH YEAR	TOWN	COUNTY	TO WHOM	DAY MONTH YEAR			CHILDREN TO FATHER
M	BRIMHALL, George Henry	9 Dec 1852	Salt Lake City	S-Lk	28 Dec 1874	29 July 1932	WIFE	2 Feb 1852	EH
F	BRIMHALL, Rachel Emma	22 May 1854	Salt Lake City	S-Lk	16 Jan 1871	10 June 1926	WIFE	2 Feb 1852	EH
M	BRIMHALL, Emer Mayer	15 Feb 1856	Bingham Fort	Weber	17 Mar 1881	28 Aug 1907	WIFE	2 Feb 1852	EH
F	BRIMHALL, Orilla Mayer	14 April 1858	Salt Lake City "	S-Lk	4 Dec 1878	29 June 1915	WIFE	2 Feb 1852	EH
M	BRIMHALL, Omer Mayer	9 March 1860	Ogden	Weber	24 Dec 1888	23 June 1916	WIFE	2 Feb 1852	EH
F	BRIMHALL, Ruth Rose	17 Jan 1863	Cedar Fork	Utah	REES, Sarah Ann	29 May 1894	WIFE	2 Feb 1852	EH
F	BRIMHALL, Prudence Mayer	26 Dec 1865	Spanish Fork	Utah	WILLIAMS, Roland Edward	9 Sep 1881	WIFE	2 Feb 1852	EH
F	BRIMHALL, Ether Record	4 Mar 1868	Spanish Fork	Utah	20 May 1891	30 Mar 1948	WIFE	2 Feb 1852	EH
F	BRIMHALL, Tryphena Mayer	24 Oct 1870	Spanish Fork	Utah	SMITH, Sophronia Lydia	30 May 1961	WIFE	2 Feb 1852	EH
F	BRIMHALL, Grace	5 Sept 1875	Spanish Fork	Utah	GARFF, George Peter	19 June 1963	WIFE	2 Feb 1852	EH
					CALDERWOOD, John M.		WIFE	2 Feb 1852	EH

**SOURCES OF INFORMATION**  
 Family record of George Peter Garff and Tryphena Mayer Brimhall Garff, by R. Minnie Garff  
 Checked by Estrella C. Marchant, May 10, 1965  
 2740 East 5060 South Phone: 277-2804, Salt Lake City, Utah

**OTHER MARRIAGES**  
 #1. George H. married 11 Sep 1886  
 #2. Robertson, Fora  
 #6. Ruth Rose was sealed to Roland Williams 20 Apr 1942. They had a son and three daughters.

**NECESSARY EXPLANATIONS**  
 Husband George Washington Brimhall divorced from first wife Lucretia Mercalf because of accepting the gospel, 1892. She was later sealed to



**HUSBAND** WILKINS, George Washington WILKINS, George Washington 1822

born 25 Oct 1823 place Petersburg, Miller, N-Hm WIFE LOVETT, Catherine Adelaide

Chr. 4 July 1846 place Lowell, Middlesex, Mass. Wife World 1 1846  
 Died 9 Mar 1916 place Spanish Fork, Utah, Uta Examiners: 2 2 A  
 Bur. 12 Mar 1916 place " " " " Stake or Mission Uintah Stake

HUSBAND'S WILKINS, Abraham HUSBAND'S EYKONS, Mary  
 HUSBANDS (2) PATTER, Angelina Melissa, (3) BUTLER, Caroline Elizabeth, (4) 17 Sep 1896 MAVER, Mary Margarette

**WIFE** (1) LOVETT, Catherine Augusta  
 born 25 Apr 1823 place Chelmsford, Middlesex, Mass. WIFE'S MORGAN, Mary

Chr. 5 Dec 1874 place Spanish Fork, Utah, Utah  
 Died 7 Dec 1874 place " " " " WIFE'S MORGAN, Mary

FATHER LOVETT, Thomas WIFE'S MORGAN, Mary

OTHER HUSBANDS CHILDREN  
 SEX LAST KNOWN (MARRIED) IN ORDER OF BIRTH WHEN BORN WHERE BORN COUNTY STATE OR TO WHICH DATE OF FIRST MARRIAGE DAY WHEN DIED  
 SURNAME (CAPITALIZED) GIVEN NAMES DAY MONTH YEAR TOWN COUNTY STATE OR TO WHICH TO WHICH DAY MONTH YEAR

1 M WILKINS, Moroni (adopted) 1849 Iron Utah Utah 15 Feb 1868 15 Oct 1921  
 2 F WILKINS, Mary Augusta 5 July 1851 Salt Lake City S-LK WINDOW 4 Mar 1860 4 June 1932  
 3 M WILKINS, George Adelbert 18 Feb 1853 San Bernardino S-BR CTR MAVER, (Sophia) Elizabeth 4 Aug 1855  
 4 M WILKINS, Charles Henry 18 Dec 1854 " " " " 28 Feb 1874 10 Jan 1926  
 5 F WILKINS, Aلسina Elizabeth 7 May 1856 Spanish Fork Utah Utah BRINKHALL, George H. 22 Feb 1874 2 June 1845-1943  
 6 F WILKINS, Lucy Annetta 14 Mar 1858 " " " " MARCUSSEN, Carl A. 30 Sep 1866 18 Nov 1877  
 7 M WILKINS, Joseph Emmons 23 Oct 1860 " " " " WILSON, Armintha Asha 5 June 1869 13 Sep 1883  
 8 X M WILKINS, Albert William 11 May 1864 " " " " DUDLEY, Mary Ellen 18 Mar 1889 28 May 1937  
 9 M WILKINS, Albert William 11 May 1864 " " " " DUDLEY, Mary Ellen 18 Mar 1889 28 May 1937  
 10  
 11

OTHER MARRIAGES

NECESSARY EXPLANATIONS

1. Fam rec in poss of Mrs. Catherine Johnson, 1228 So. 8th E. Salt Lake City, Utah

2. LDS Church Temple Rec

3. Fam rec in poss of Melvin Wilkins, 1165 Concord St. SLC, Utah 84104

**TEACHER'S CERTIFICATE.**

GRAMMAR GRADE.

This Certifies that *Sina Brimhall* has passed an examination as provided by law in the following branches, to-wit:

Pedagogy, . . . . . Reading, . . . . . Writing, . . . . . Spelling, . . . . . English Grammar, . . . . . Geography, . . . . .	<table border="1" style="border-collapse: collapse; width: 100%;"> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">Per Cent</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">83</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;"> </td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;"> </td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;"> </td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;"> </td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;"> </td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;"> </td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;"> </td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;"> </td></tr> </table>	Per Cent	83									<i>Issued on</i> <i>the merits</i> <i>of B. Ed. from</i> <i>the B. G. A.</i>	<table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr><td style="width: 50%;">United States History, . . . . .</td><td style="width: 50%; text-align: center;">Per Cent</td></tr> <tr><td>Arithmetic, . . . . .</td><td style="text-align: center;"> </td></tr> <tr><td>Physiology and Hygiene, . . . . .</td><td style="text-align: center;"> </td></tr> <tr><td>Nature Studies, . . . . .</td><td style="text-align: center;"> </td></tr> <tr><td>Drawing, . . . . .</td><td style="text-align: center;"> </td></tr> <tr><td>Mental Arithmetic, . . . . .</td><td style="text-align: center;"> </td></tr> </table>	United States History, . . . . .	Per Cent	Arithmetic, . . . . .		Physiology and Hygiene, . . . . .		Nature Studies, . . . . .		Drawing, . . . . .		Mental Arithmetic, . . . . .	
Per Cent																									
83																									
United States History, . . . . .	Per Cent																								
Arithmetic, . . . . .																									
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Nature Studies, . . . . .																									
Drawing, . . . . .																									
Mental Arithmetic, . . . . .																									

And being otherwise eligible she is, therefore, declared qualified to teach a Grammar Department in the public schools of Utah County during the period of one year from date hereof.

Provo, Utah *July 15* 1897

Board of Examiners

*D. B. Christensen* Chairman  
*A. J. Johnson* Secretary  
*S. Brimhall*

N. B. This certificate is not to renewal in whole or in part under the rules and regulations of the Board. Renewed per cents. are entered in red ink.

No. 31

**TEACHER'S CERTIFICATE.**

*Primary Grade*

The Board of Education of the City of Provo, Utah,

Hereby Certifies, that *Sina Brimhall* has sustained the examination prescribed by law, covering the branches, and with the result indicated below, has furnished satisfactory evidence of good moral character, and is otherwise eligible to teach. We do therefore issue to her this Certificate of Qualification, good until June 30, 1898.

*W. D. Delrazier* President of THE BOARD OF EDUCATION.

Given at Provo City, this *15th* day of *July*, 1897.

GRADES ATTAINED.		By
Reading	86	<i>W. D. Delrazier</i> <i>J. M. Jensen</i> <i>S. Brimhall</i>
Writing	85	
Spelling	82	
Grammar	85	
Geography	84	
U. S. History	75	
Arithmetic	50	Examining Committee.
Physiology & Hyg.	72	
Pedagogics	88	
Drawing	76	

Average *78*

Attest *J. M. Jensen*  
 Clerk of Board of Education.

# Distinguished Service Award

Alumni Association Brigham Young University

*This certificate of appreciation and award is presented to*

**Alsina Brimhall Holbrook**

*in recognition of outstanding service*

*as a friend and neighbor, as a daughter and a wife, and as a mother whose wealth is the lives of her children, and her children's children, lives fashioned by the high ideals and principles that have dominated her own life in the home, the church and the community.*

*Through your achievements you have enhanced the name and honor of the school which is proud to claim you as one of its outstanding alumni, and honor you with this award for distinguished service.*

*A. H. Brockbank*

President

*W. S. Hansen*

Executive Secretary

Ninety-first Annual Commencement Convocation

Brigham Young University

LAFAYETTE H. AND ALSINA BRIMHALL HOLBROOK

JOSEPH F. SMITH FAMILY LIVING AWARD

George Albert Smith Fieldhouse

Friday, May 27, 1966