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GREAT GREAT GRANDFATHER

MY GREAT UNCLE!

MY GREAT GRANDFATHER IS BROTHER

JUNE IS BURIED AT CONCORD CEMETERY IN PERRY COUNTY, IL HUSBAND WAS ROBERT

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### Old Hearsay Stories (Horace Boudinot Wilson)

History written by June Mills Mckinstry "My grandfather...Horace Boudinot Wilson" December 1990

William (Paddy) Wilson came from a good family, but he himself became a "boozer." His family hounded him about this, so he left Ohio and came to Illinois to get away from bad companions. Alas! He managed to find booze in Illinois so he never quit.

His wife and the younger children followed later. Horace was born in Illinois but they all had a hard life due to Paddy's drinking.

The mother told her children of the fine homes, horses, and carriages owned by her relatives back in Ohio. Horace resolved that some day he too would own much land, fine horses and carriages. (This he did do too!)

Horace's first wife died leaving him with a young son. He began looking around for a replacement and began courting a young school teacher named Sarah Abbott, who had also come with her parents from Ohio.

MARRIED 3/23/1877

When Horace proposed to her she said no that she was going to return to Ohio with her folks who had decided to go back. Horace pointed out to her that she was old enough to marry and need not go with her parents. She told him that her main reason for not staying was the lack of her kind of church which she said was very important to her.

Horace then said to her: "If that's all, I will build you a church." This he did but whether before or after the wedding I don't know.

Horace already owned land but none of it seemed suitable for a church so he approached a man named Garrison asking to buy five acres of land (I believe that was what he was wanting to buy) which was a level spot and was on a road.

Mr Garrison said: "Why Horace, what do you want with a little piece of land off my field? It wouldn't be big enough for much more than a 'tater patch'?"

Horace then told Mr. Garrison: "I aim to build a church and graveyard." Garrison then replied; "Oh in that case Horace, I'll donate the land" and he gae him a deed for the land. That is why it is called GARRISON TEMPLE. IN WAYNE COUNTY, IL MY FIRST CHURCH

Horace began cutting trees from his woods into lumber and when others learned that he was building a church they worked FREE! The plasterers did their work at cost and what was not donated was paid for by Horace Boudinot Wilson. (The price of his bride.)

He then dedeed it to the Methodist Protestant Church and decreed that the cemetery was to be FREE BURIAL for all ages so of course it still it. There is no cost for a burial spot at the Garrison Temple Graveyard.

Grandmother Wilson notified the Methodist Protestant Conference who came and organized a church. The church was governed by three trustees, of whom two had to be Methodist Members. The third could be a man of good repute chosen by the other two. So Uncle Horace Wilson became the third member, having built the church free and he never did join the church. It seems to be an unwritten rule that one of Horace's descendants will always be on the broad of trustees.

When grandfather Horace died, my dad Tyra Mills, (a member) took his place. When dad died, Clair Byars, my sister Reba's husband, was put in. When Clair died my brother Marvin Mills, took his place. Marvin's wife Sena was chosen to take his place when he died as by this time women were holding church offices. She resigned when she remarried and was replaced by Wayne Wilson, a son of Ben Wilson.

The original building was completely demolished in 1957 by a tornado. A new and more modern one was soon erected. After my mother's death I sent money (taken from her estate) to put in air conditioning.

I was never a member at the Temple nor was Marvin but Reba and her husband and their son Vernon and his wife Frances were.

Horace B. Wilson became very prosperous. He owned many acres of land, a general store or trading post called Elm Branch with a post office. He owned herds of cattle, many horses, orchards, an apple drying plant or evaporator which employed over a hundred people in season.

He took in orphans and raised them unless reclaimed by the remaining parent. He employed all who came asking for work. He had barns, horses, hired men, hired girls, mill employees, and he bossed all of them. Any traveler was given free lodging and horse feed for the night. He was called "Uncle Harse" by all who knew him.

His sons became carpenters and made coffins for those who could not buy one. Horace owned straps for lowering coffins into the grave and loaned them when needed.

He built a bunhouse for the men with a number of beds in it. Women, children, and Uncle Horace slept in the house.

I, June (Mills) McKinstry, recall seeing the store and post office, which had a lodge hall up above it, the evaporator (apple drying plant), barns and bunkhouse as a small child. All have been gone for many years now.

This site powered by [The Next Generation of Genealogy Sitebuilding](#), Copyright © 2001-2009, created by Darrin Lythgoe, Sandy, Utah. All rights reserved. Lee Bradford and Leslie (Dorothy) Wilson and Florence Youngblood Wilson were three of the orphans raised by Uncle Horace. There were a number of others.

Written by June Mills McKinstry - December 1990

Owner/Source	Clyde McConnaughay
Date	December 1990
Linked to	<a href="#">Our Book</a> <a href="#">Horace Boudinot Wilson</a>

↑  
MI GRANDMOTHER  
WILLIE'S WIFE

Note: The body of this email comes from June McKinstry (via Clyde McConnaughay). The hand written parts are by Jerry Wilson.