

HENRY FREEMAN COOK
EMMA ADELINE (FURMAN) COOK

Henry Freeman Cook, the only living son of James Henry Cook and Malinda (Wilcox) Cook, was born February 15, 1874 in Cedar Fort, Utah. In 1891, at age 17, Henry came to Canada with his father. They drove 700 head of cattle and 200 head of horses. They settled in the Boundary Creek area of southwest Alberta. Henry returned to Cedar Fort that fall, attended school for the winter, and returned to Canada the following summer of 1892, bringing his sisters Sophronia, Edna and Martha, to join their father. They drove a covered wagon, democrat and a few head of horses to the new home on Boundary Creek. After the death of their mother in 1888 in Idaho, the oldest daughter Sophronia took care of the family until she married. Henry worked with his father until he acquired his own homestead and married Emma Furman.



[This "Democrat" is vintage 1906, but typical]

Emma Adeline Furman was born March 27, 1877 in Keating, Oregon. She is the daughter of John Jacob Furman and Mary Jane (Dill) Furman. With her mother, her sister Minnie and brother Charlie, at the age of nine years she trailed horses and cattle to Augusta, Montana from Baker, Oregon. There they joined their father and brother John Jr. and settled there for three years. The children attended school in Augusta. The family moved to Canada from Augusta in 1899 and homesteaded in the Boundary Creek area of southern Alberta. John Furman raised race horses and this kept Emma and Minnie busy training and riding them. Emma spent very little time in the kitchen but was a great hand with the horses. She used only a sidesaddle. She was very proud of her new black riding habit that her father had bought for her and her sister while at a race meet at Fort Qu'Appelle, Saskatchewan.



Henry F. and Emma F. Cook with sons Dil and Freeman.

Henry Freeman Cook and Emma Adeline Furman were married May 26, 1898 in Lethbridge, at Cora and Jim Fuller's home. Cora was Emma's half sister. Henry's youngest sister, Edna, and Ernest Wynder accompanied them to Lethbridge in a democrat.

Henry homesteaded the NE¼ 14-1-26-W4 which was south of Cardston in the Boundary Creek area. They lived there for a few years and raised cattle and horses. Later they purchased additional land on the St. Mary River along the U.S. border. They purchased this land from Mike Smith, Purnell, Vern Shaw, and Mrs. Shaw. They moved to this beautiful spot where the children were born, and where the Cook family still lives (1977) four generations later. They also added some railroad and Hudson's Bay land to their holdings. The Cooks added sheep to their enterprise, which stayed in the family business for two generations.

Henry and Emma had three children, James Freeman, Lawrence Dil, and Gladys May. Their early education was very limited. For a few years they had governesses, two of which were Miss Wilensen and Joy Johansen.

When they stayed with the Tuttles for two years, they rode to Boundary Creek School where Messrs. Thurber and Prime were their teachers. These men later taught school in Cardston. Henry bought a home in Cardston

in 1907 so the boys could go to school. The flood of 1908 on Lee Creek washed it away. When the Tuttle moved into Cardston Gladys stayed with them and went to school. Later Emma moved into town and the boys again attended school there.

Before the little white United Church was built on Boundary Creek, Emma, Mrs. Robert Smith and Mrs. Herbert Tuttle had church services in their homes for several years. They cooked a big dinner for all who attended until the crowd got too large.

Henry retired in 1942 and went to live in Cardston until his death April 1949. Emma took care of her home and operated the Cook Apartments in Cardston even during the last few years before her death. She passed away November 18, 1971 at the age of 94.

Freeman (married Bernice Hadfield), Lawrence Dil (married Rozella De their), and Gladys (married E. S. (Ted) Mitchell).

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Source: Copied from a history of local residents in Alberta, Canada [Provided by Claudette Seward 2005]