

Albert Hollister - Son of a Pioneer

In 1837 two friends from New York State who had heard the call of the west took a boat from Buffalo to Kenosha. They were Edward Brigham Hollister and John Whiteman, both only kids of seventeen. They walked from Kenosha to Lake Geneva and decided to look for some government land. They picked out farms north of Williams Bay.



1857 Delavan Township Plat Map. Edward B. Hollister farm is bordered in orange, East Delavan in green, and East Delavan Union Cemetery in blue. Seth L. Hollister's farm is adjacent to Edward's farm.

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CERTIFICATE
No. 15867

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THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

To all to whom these Presents shall come, Greeting:

WHEREAS Edward B. Hollister, of Walworth County,
Wisconsin Territory

has deposited in the GENERAL LAND OFFICE of the United States, a Certificate of the REGISTER OF THE
LAND OFFICE at Milwaukee whereby it appears that full payment has been made by the said
Edward B. Hollister,

according to the provisions of the
Act of Congress of the 24th of April, 1820, entitled "An Act making further provision for the sale of the Public Lands," for
the North East quarter of Section twenty four, in Township
two, North, of Range sixteen, East in the District of Lands
subject to sale at Milwaukee, Wisconsin Territory, con-
taining one hundred and sixty acres.

according to the official plat of the survey of the said Lands, returned to the General Land Office by the SURVEYOR
GENERAL, which said tract has been purchased by the said Edward B. Hollister,

NOW KNOW YE, That the
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, in consideration of the Premises, and in conformity with the several acts of Congress,
in such case made and provided, HAVE GIVEN AND GRANTED, and by these presents DO GIVE AND GRANT,
unto the said Edward B. Hollister,

and to his heirs, the said tract above described: TO HAVE AND TO HOLD the same, together with all the rights,
privileges, immunities, and appurtenances of whatsoever nature, thereunto belonging, unto the said Edward
B. Hollister,

and to his heirs and assigns forever.

In Testimony Whereof, I, James K. Polk
PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, have caused these Letters to be made PATENT, and
the SEAL of the GENERAL LAND OFFICE to be hereunto affixed.

GIVEN under my hand, at the CITY OF WASHINGTON, the first day of August
in the Year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty six and of the
INDEPENDENCE OF THE UNITED STATES the Seventy first.

BY THE PRESIDENT: James K. Polk

By J. Knowlton Sec'y.



J. W. Sauphin
RECORDER of the General Land Office.

Edward B. Hollister land registration dated August 1, 1846.

In September 1943, Edward's parents, Seth L. and Catharine Brigham Hollister, and four of his siblings emigrated from their home in Perry, Genesee Co., New York to settled in the eastern part of Delavan township, where Mr. Seth L. Hollister engaged in farming until his death on March 16, 1867, his wife, Catharine survived him by a little more than a year, she died May 12, 1868, they are buried in East Delavan Union Cemetery.

Milwaukee was the nearest market for grain. It took three days to make the round trip with an oxen team. As a rule the first night was spent in Hales Corners. The next day would be a daylight tip to Milwaukee and back to Hales Corners for the night and back home on the third day.

Edward Hollister married Harriet Ann Eaton, May 24, 1849 in Geneva, Kane Co. Illinois. Edward and Catherine raised three children, Jehiel Eaton born March 25, 1850, Cordelia born December 6, 1851, and Albert born June 15, 1854 on the family farm in East Delavan.

Recalling his youth, Albert said a band of Indians were roaming around these parts every summer. They had a permanent camp near Lake Koshkonong and three or four hundred came down to Delavan Inlet and Duck Lake (now Lake Como) for the summer. The children had no fear of them and they were kind to them. Occasionally they would ask for food.

The Hollister children went to school in Elkhorn. After teaching school for four years about four miles north of Elkhorn, Albert went to Juneau County and taught for another four years. His interest in lumber came about during a year spent in Denver where he worked in a lumber yard. Returning to Delavan, Albert engaged in a business enterprise, marrying Ida Janette Burdick December 1, 1880 in Delavan. Their son Edward Horace was born August August 29, 1883, in Delavan.

Albert began his first venture in the lumber business in Ionia, Iowa. In those days no delivery was required and he worked alone at the yard, unloading cars of lumber by shoving a bunch off the car and then cutting and piling it up. He prospered and began establishing lumber yards in other communities in Iowa and western Illinois, at one time he owned twelve lumber yards. In order to supply the yards, Albert spent much time buying lumber in Oregon and the Northwest and at one time he had an office in Minneapolis. In 1892 he contracted for and sold 400 cars of cedar shingles under the name of the Dubuque Red Cedar Company.

Albert and Ida's second son, Lawrence Albert was born August 16, 1890 in Manchester, Delaware County, Iowa. Albert and Ida lived in Iowa until 1910 when Albert had a chance to sell his lumber yards; he retained the lumber yard in Belvidere, Illinois and moved back to Delavan. In 1911, the lumber yard in Williams Bay was purchased and sons Edward and Lawrence came to Williams Bay to live and work at A. Hollister and Sons Lumber Company.



A. Hollister and Sons Lumber Yard circa 1915.



Albert Hollister

Albert Hollister was the Mayor of Delavan from 1916 until 1918.

Even in his later years, Albert went to the lumber yard nearly every morning.

Ida Hollister died in 1931 and Albert died April 27, 1936. Both are buried in Spring Grove Cemetery in Delavan, Wisconsin.

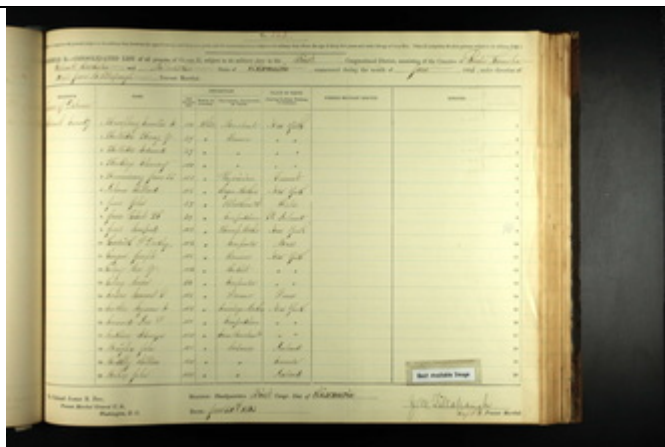
Many descendants of Seth L. and Catharine Brigham Hollister are buried in East Delavan Union Cemetery.

Edward Hollister died May 2, 1891 and Catharine died May 26, 1913, they are buried in Spring Grove Cemetery Delavan, Wisconsin.

Lawrence Hollister died May 8, 1960 and Edward Horace Hollister died October 13, 1961. Both Lawrence and Edward are buried in Spring Grove Cemetery, Delavan, Wisconsin.



Hollister Family Crest



Edward Brigham Hollister Civil War Draft Registration



East Delavan Union Cemetery



SETH L. HOLLISTER DIED March 16 1867 AGED 74 years 7 months and 25 days



Spring Grove Cemetery, Delavan, W



Edward B. Hollister died May 2, 1891 Aged 68 years 5 months 9 days



Albert and Ida Hollister



Albert Hollister died April 27, 1936 Aged 82 years 10 months 12 days



Jehiel Eaton Hollister
son of Edward B. and
Harriet Easton
Hollister. Died
November 20, 1924
in San Jose,

California buried in Spring Grove
Cemetery, Delavan, Wisconsin



Edward Horace Hollister son of Albert and
Ida Hollister died October 13, 1961 buried
in Spring Grove Cemetery, Delavan,
Wisconsin

Article References:

Son of a Pioneer, Bay Leaves Vol 1 Number 7

The Hollister Family of America, Lieut. John Hollister of Wethersfield, Conn., Compiled by Lafayette Wallace Case, M.D., 1886

Ancestry.com
East Delavan Union Cemetery
Spring Grove Cemetery, Delavan, Wisconsin