

Day Family History

Two of the pioneer families of De Luz are the Garnseys and the Days. The Day and Garnsey properties were originally adjacent and were later combined through marriage. Currently the property is located at 40635 De Luz Road.

Day Family Homestead Certificate 1892



Day Homestead Certificate West half of the Southwest quarter of Section 29 and the east half of the southeast quarter of Section 30

Erastus M. Day (1824-1901)

Born in New York and laid to rest in the family cemetery in De Luz. Married to Caroline Verona Beardsley Day, he is the presence behind the oldest gravestone in the cemetery. Father of five children including Harry Kirk Day (Gramp Day). Relocating to California in 1858, E. M. Day delved into various vocations before establishing the Day ranch in the 1880s. He's referenced in the 1889 and 1912 plat maps. Notably, his youngest, William I. Day, witnessed Patricia Norman's grandparents' marriage in 1900.



Caroline Verona Beardsley Day (1827-1908)

Born in New York and passed away in San Francisco. The cherished wife of Erastus Day. Mother to Harry Kirk Day, Frank Beardsley Day, Louise M. Day (Behre), Lena Day, and William I. Day.

Louise M. Day (Behre)

Daughter of Erastus and Caroline Day. United in matrimony with Fred Behre and rests in the family cemetery. Her life remains wrapped in mystery.



Harry Kirk Day (1852-1932)

A Californian from the age of six, he tied the knot with Ida May Belle Finch in 1875. Father to Jessie, Frank R. Day, Edith, and an infant girl. Mourning the loss of wife Ida in 1903, San Francisco.



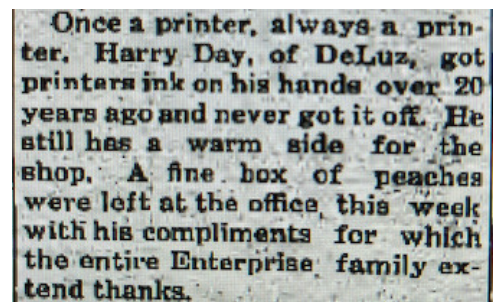
Harry Kirk Day (Gramp) homesteaded in 1892 as did James L Garnsey – Felix Garnsey bought 80 more acres to make the total of 400 acres.

He was the owner of a productive farm which carried on for nearly a score of years with excellent results. Son of the late E. M. Day, born October 4, 1852 in Erie County, PA. His paternal grandfather fought in the war of 1812. He received limited education in Placer and Lake counties. In San Jose, he learned the machinist trade and for years worked in a foundry and machine shop. He was also a printer.

Enterprise 8-11-1911

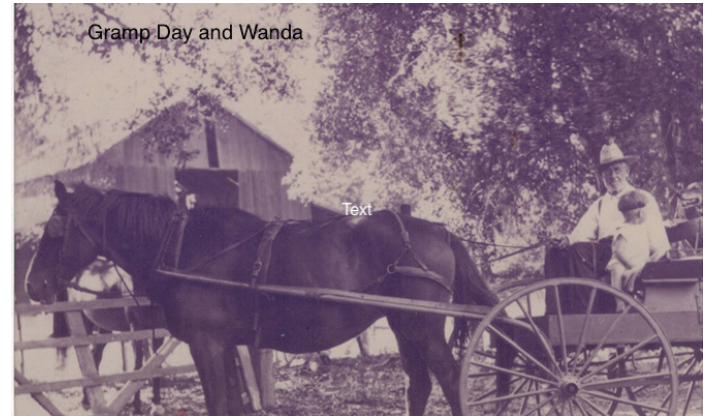
Ida May Belle Day (1858-1903)

Wife to Harry Kirk Day and mother to Jessie, Frank R. Day, Edith Day, and an infant daughter who tragically lived only 14 days. Educational records show that Edith studied at De Luz School between 1890-1899, while Jessie was there from 1890-1896, and Frank from 1890-1895.



Gramp Day's Mail Adventures in De Luz (Circa 1882)

Starting in 1882, the residents of De Luz relied on Gramp Day and his faithful horse, Wanda, for their mail services. With his buggy, Gramp made his rounds, collecting outgoing letters from a large tree hollow near the Judson Mineral Springs hotel. His journey often led him to the Howe Post Office and sometimes, a grocery errand or two. Navigating through the challenging terrain, which included nine creek crossings and a steep grade, Gramp showed resilience. As Mrs. W.G. King (Margaret Regan) recalls in a letter, "He'd often elevate his feet, placing mail and parcels on the seat, as water flooded his buggy." The child in the photo is Edith Mitchell, his granddaughter.



The Enigma of Gramp Day

A larger-than-life personality, Gramp Day's self-crafted gravestone still draws intrigue, especially its distinct lettering—possibly inspired by his printing profession. Known colloquially as the "Mayor" of De Luz or "Col. Day," his significance in the community was paramount, comparable to the Garnseys. The Day and Garnsey families united when Gramp's daughter, Edith, married Louis Garnsey, blending the legacies of two De Luz pillars. Documentation, such as the 1913 Grant Deed transferring property to Edith Garnsey (refer to pages 10 and 11), or later the 1938 Title Insurance, highlights Louis J. Garnsey's guardianship of Edith (deemed mentally incapacitated) to be shared with Felix and his wife Theodora, further immortalizes their intertwined histories.



Enterprise 10-4-1912

Col. Harry K. Day, mayor of the thriving metropolis of De Luz, has finished saving his raisen crop and was in town on schedule time last Tuesday. He has the thanks of the Enterprise family for a fine box of grapes.

Enterprise 3-24-1911

Printer's "Devil" 50 Years Ago, Parts With \$1.50
 H. K. Day, of De Luz, who fifty years ago did service on the "roller" ride of a Washington hand press, has the distinction of being the first paid up subscriber to the Enterprise. —T. J.

Enterprise 7-25-1924

By invitation of Mr. Day the "whole Crane tribe" journeyed to De Luz the other day. A good lunch, plenty of ripe blackberries and ice cream eaten in the shade of the majestic oaks that surround Mr. Day's home made the hours pass rapidly. A few minor troubles—two "blowouts" and a "flat" tire—counted for nothing, according to "Gran-dad Crane."

Enterprise 3-30-1917

H. K. Day has returned from a visit to Ceres, Cal., singing, "There's no place like home," and with Mr. Day, home means DeLuz first, last and always.

Enterprise 8-8-1925

A dinner party at the Day home in De Luz was enjoyed Sunday by Mr. and Mrs. Bert Stewart and daughter Verda, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Stewart, Miss Frances Williams and C. A. Dicey.

Harry K. Day (Gramp Day) and Harry Garnsey in overalls in the vineyard



HARRY KIRK DAY IS DROWNED IN HOME RESERVOIR

LEADING DE LUZ PIONEER SUFFERS HEART AT- TACK; SINKS UNDER WATER.

The De Luz community, northwest of Fallbrook, lost a leading pioneer citizen last Saturday morning when Harry Kirk Day, age 78, was drowned in a reservoir on his own ranch. Mr. Day was under strict orders from his physician not to lift anything, as his heart was in a serious condition. Evidence shows that he was in the process of watering flowers in the private cemetery on the Day ranch at the time of his death. He had apparently walked into the water in the shallow end of the reservoir to dip up water with a bucket when the heart attack struck him and he sank under water.

Found Saturday Night

Mr. Day's body was not found until 9:30 o'clock Saturday evening, although some boys were swimming in the reservoir at noon time and noticed a hat floating on the surface. When he failed to be found during the evening, a group of men gathered at the reservoir, discovered the bucket, and found Mr. Day in about six feet of water. The men were Felix Garnsey, Jack Baxter, Walter H. Tiffany, Albert Webster, and Reece Tittle. The coroner was summoned and pronounced the case accidental death by drowning.

Burial services took place Monday at 2 o'clock at the grave site in the family cemetery, with only a short prayer, as requested by Mr. Day.

Long Time Resident

Born in Pennsylvania October 15, 1852, Mr. Day came to De Luz at the age of 8 years with his parents. Since that time he has lived a total of 44 years on the home ranch in De Luz.

Mr. Day is survived by a sister in Los Angeles, two children, Frank Day of Lompoc, and Mrs. Louis J. Garnsey; five grandchildren: Dorothy, married daughter of Frank Day, Felix Garnsey, Recoe, Marjorie, and Edith Tittle; and two great grandchildren.



These are the gravestones of Harry K. Day in the Day/Garnsey cemetery. He knew he was ailing because his doctor told him he was having heart troubles. He must have made these unique headstones for his grave in the cemetery. Early in his life he was a printer and knew how to create this unusual spelling of his name. Even in at the end of his life, he had a sense of humor.

Jessie D. (Day) Tittle (1880-1930)

Daughter of Ida and Harry Kirk Day, Jessie later became the wife of David Martin Tittle, giving birth to Marjorie, Reese, and Edith (who would later be known as Edith Day Mitchell). Jessie's legacy in education shone brightly; both Marjorie and Reese were students at De Luz School during 1911-13. Jessie herself made strides in her career, first as a teacher and eventually rising to become a school principal. The 1920 Census records show her residing in Fallbrook as a widow.



Enterprise 2-15-29

Mrs. Jessie Tittle who has been teaching at San Jacinto, and her daughter Miss Marjorie from Coronado, are at home in De Luz, with her father, H. K. Day.

San Diego Union December 1927

* * *
Mrs. Jessie Tittle spent the Thanksgiving holidays visiting her father, H. K. Day at his home at De Luz.

**Funeral for Mrs. Title
at Chula Vista Monday**
Enterprise 7-4-30

On Monday afternoon at 2 o'clock, funeral services for Mrs. Jessie Tittle, who was killed in an auto wreck last Wednesday, were held in the Hubbard & Porter Funeral parlors at Chula Vista, following an inquest on Saturday. Dr. Charles L. Barnes of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, San Diego, officiated.

Mrs. Tittle was the principal of the San Ysidro grammar school and was to have held the same position there next year. She taught in Fallbrook from 1917 to 1920. Her father, Harry Day, is one of the pioneer residents of De Luz.

She is survived by two daughters, Miss Marjorie, who is in governmental secretarial service in Washington, D. C., Miss Edith, a nurse in the general hospital, San Francisco, and a son, Reese Tittle, who is in the navy and will leave San Diego soon on a trip to China. Beside her father, she also leaves a brother, Frank Day of Lompoc and a sister, Mrs. Garnsey, whose home is in De Luz.

Among those attending the funeral were Harry Day, Harry Garnsey, Mr. and Mrs. R. J. Wilmot, Mrs. John Baxter, Bert Webster of De Luz and Frank Day and daughter, Mrs. Dorothy Serblan, who are visiting here.

Frank R Day (1877-1950)

Frank R Day, wedded to Lulu Adams, was blessed with a daughter named Dorothy. Interestingly, Dorothy and Edith Mitchell shared a deep bond, as recounted by Carol Mitchell, Edith's granddaughter.



Professionally, Frank made his mark in Fallbrook as the owner-operator of a Ford garage, specializing in repairing boilers and other mechanical equipment. His garage was distinguishably marked by a 6-foot representation of the Devil, which, in a quirky twist of fate, was found atop the Methodist church one Halloween. In 1918, Frank sold this business venture to Mr. Ellis.

Historical land records show a 'Day property' in Section 33 on the 1889 Plat map. By 1912, a 'FR Day' appeared in Section 32 of the Plat map, located adjacent to Kate Regan's ranch and later selling to the Brode's. Further details can be found on page 16.

Mr. and Mrs. Brode, who bought Frank Day's place at De Luz, two months ago, paid Fallbrook their first visit last Monday. They came here from Kansas and are much pleased with their new home.

Enterprise 3-21-1919



Enterprise 8-11-1911

FRANK R. DAY,
Proprietor of
FALLBROOK GARAGE.
Tires, Tubes and Accessories.
All makes of cars overhauled. New and second hand cars sold.
Agent for the Old Reliable FORD.
New Ecetylene-Welding Apparatus has been added, and broken castings can now be quickly repaired.

Enterprise 11-15-1912

Fallbrook Garage and Machine Shop.
FRANK DAY, Propr.
Automobile and General Repairing
We are agents for the
FORD CARS

Enterprise 9-24-1920

He must have survived since his gravestone lists his death date as 1950.

Frank Day was badly injured in an automobile accident either Sunday or Monday. A telegram notifying his father of the accident came Monday. A second message came Tuesday asking him to come at once, for Frank was in a serious condition. As far as we know nothing has been heard from Mr. Day since he left. Mrs. Garnsey is driving the De Luz mail. Frank has been running a garage at Saticoy, in Ventura County.

Edith Day Garnsey (1885-1964)

Edith Day, a notable figure in local history, tied the knot with Louis James Garnsey. Their union fused two pioneering families of the region: the Garnseys and the Days. From 1890 to 1899, Edith pursued her education at the De Luz School, which was situated on the Wilmot property. Through her lineage, she played a pivotal role in the intertwining stories of these founding families.



Edith Day Tittle Mitchell (1908-1993)

Although there's no mention of Edith in the De Luz Public School records, her legacy is rich in history. Edith was the daughter of Jessie Tittle, who belonged to the prominent Day family. This made Edith a cousin to Felix Garnsey. She later married Arthur L Mitchell (1899-1985), and together they had two sons: David Mitchell and Douglas Mitchell. Edith's homestead sat on two acres adjacent to the modern-day Welburn Gourd Farm. Following her ownership, Tom and Suki Glenn became the property's subsequent owners.



Before settling on her property, Edith relocated to Oakland where she practiced nursing. In 1966, she and Arthur constructed their residence. A fervent gardener, Edith had a special fondness for camellias, nurturing them under the vast live oaks gracing their land. Her gardening legacy persists as many of the fruit trees she planted still bear fruit in 2023.

Remarkably, Edith recounted that her mother, Jesse Tittle, hand-dug a 60-foot well on the property, which continued to serve until the 1990s.



To Be A Nurse

To be a nurse is to walk with God
Along the path that our Master
trod.
To soothe the achings of human
pain.
To faithfully serve for little gain.
To lovingly do the kindly deed.
A cup of water to one in need.
A tender hand on a fevered brow;
A word of cheer in the living now
To reach the soul through its body's
woe.
Ah! This is the way that God would
go
Oh, white capped girls in service
true
Our Great Physician's working
through you.



Arthur Mitchell
He is known in the canyon for making the best corned beef brisket from the local beef grown on the ranch. Also for his ability to swear creatively.

Mrs. Edith Tittle Mitchell, who spent several weeks with her grandfather, H. K. Day, has returned to her home in Oakland.

Enterprise 10-31-1930



Camellias that Edith planted in the front of the house near the large Live Oak tree.



Edith Mitchell with Mary Ferrero (Seated)

In 1991, Mary Ferrero visited Teddy and Edith. Mary, a former resident of De Luz, attended the De Luz School between 1912-14 and again in 1916-17. She fondly remembered what she believed was a house with a screened porch, situated on the land now owned by Tom and Suki Glenn.

Family cemetery on the Garnsey Ranch



Thirteen, before me, W. M. Smelser,
a Notary Public in and for said County, and State, residing therein, duly commissioned and sworn, personally appeared Harry K. Day,

known to me to be the person described in and whose name he subscribed to the within instrument, and acknowledged to me that he executed the same.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my Official Seal, at my office, in Fallbrook, County of San Diego, State of California, the day and year in this certificate first above written.



W. M. Smelser
Notary Public in and for the County of San Diego, State of California.
My Commission Expires July 19th, 1915.

GRANT DEED

18179

Harry K. Day,

TO

Edith Garnsey,

Edith Garnsey, cal

Dated

APR 17 1913

191

RECORDED AT REQUEST OF

Edith

JUN 17 1913

At 6 Min. Past 12 O'clock

pm In Book No. 614

OF *W. M. Smelser*

PAGE 205

RECORDS OF SAN DIEGO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

JOHN H. FERRY,

County Recorder

By *M. E. Williams*

Deputy Recorder

For \$ 1.75

COMPARED: *W. M. Smelser*
Notary Public

PRINTED AND FOR SALE AT
SCOTT'S PRINT SHOP, FOURTH AND F STREETS
Rooms 7 and 8 Ingle Building
San Diego, Cal.

1913. Grant Deed Harry K. Day
to
Edith Garnsey

SEC. 29

Day property on the 1938
plat map

Handwritten notes:
Tittle
6/10
5300'
2200'

Ranch
House

In 1938 Reese, Marjorie and Edith
Tittle owned this piece of property,
later it was owned solely by Edith
and Arthur Mitchell and purchased
by Tom and Suki Glenn in 1988.

Handwritten in green:
PARCEL N° 1.

Cemetery

Handwritten in green:
N° 2.

Union Title Insurance Company

SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA
CAPITAL AND SURPLUS OVER \$ 1,000,000.

Title Insurance and Trust Company

LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA
CAPITAL AND SURPLUS OVER \$10,000,000.

1028-1040 SECOND AVENUE
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA
(herein called the Companies)

For a valuable consideration, paid for this

OWNER'S OR JOINT PROTECTION POLICY OF TITLE INSURANCE

AMOUNT, \$ 4,000.00

NO. 288431

DO HEREBY INSURE

Louis J. Garnsey,
as Guardian of the Estate of Edith Day Garnsey,
an insane person,
and
Theodora L. Garnsey and Felix Garnsey,

together with any other person or corporation included in the term the Insured as defined in this Policy, against loss or damage not exceeding Four Thousand Dollars (\$4,000.00) - - - - - which any Insured shall sustain by reason of title to the land described in Schedule A being vested at the date hereof otherwise than as therein stated, or by reason of unmarketability of the title of any vestee to or in said land on account of defects, liens, encumbrances and other matters existing at the date hereof and not shown in Schedule B, or by reason of any defect in, or lien or encumbrance on said title, at the date hereof, other than defects, liens, encumbrances and other matters shown in Schedule B, or by reason of any defect in the execution, in so far as it affects the lien or charge upon said land, of any mortgage or deed of trust shown in Schedule B securing an indebtedness, the owner of which is insured by this Policy, or by reason of priority thereto of any lien or encumbrance upon said land at the date hereof except as shown in Schedule B, all subject, however, to the exceptions and conditions hereto annexed, which exceptions and conditions together with Schedules A and B are hereby made a part of this Policy.

In Witness Whereof, each of the Companies has caused this policy to be signed by its President and attested by its Secretary or Assistant Secretary, under its Corporate Seal this 1st day of June, 1938, at 9:00 A. M.

TITLE INSURANCE AND TRUST COMPANY

UNION TITLE INSURANCE COMPANY

By Stuart O' Melveny
STUART O' MELVENY, President

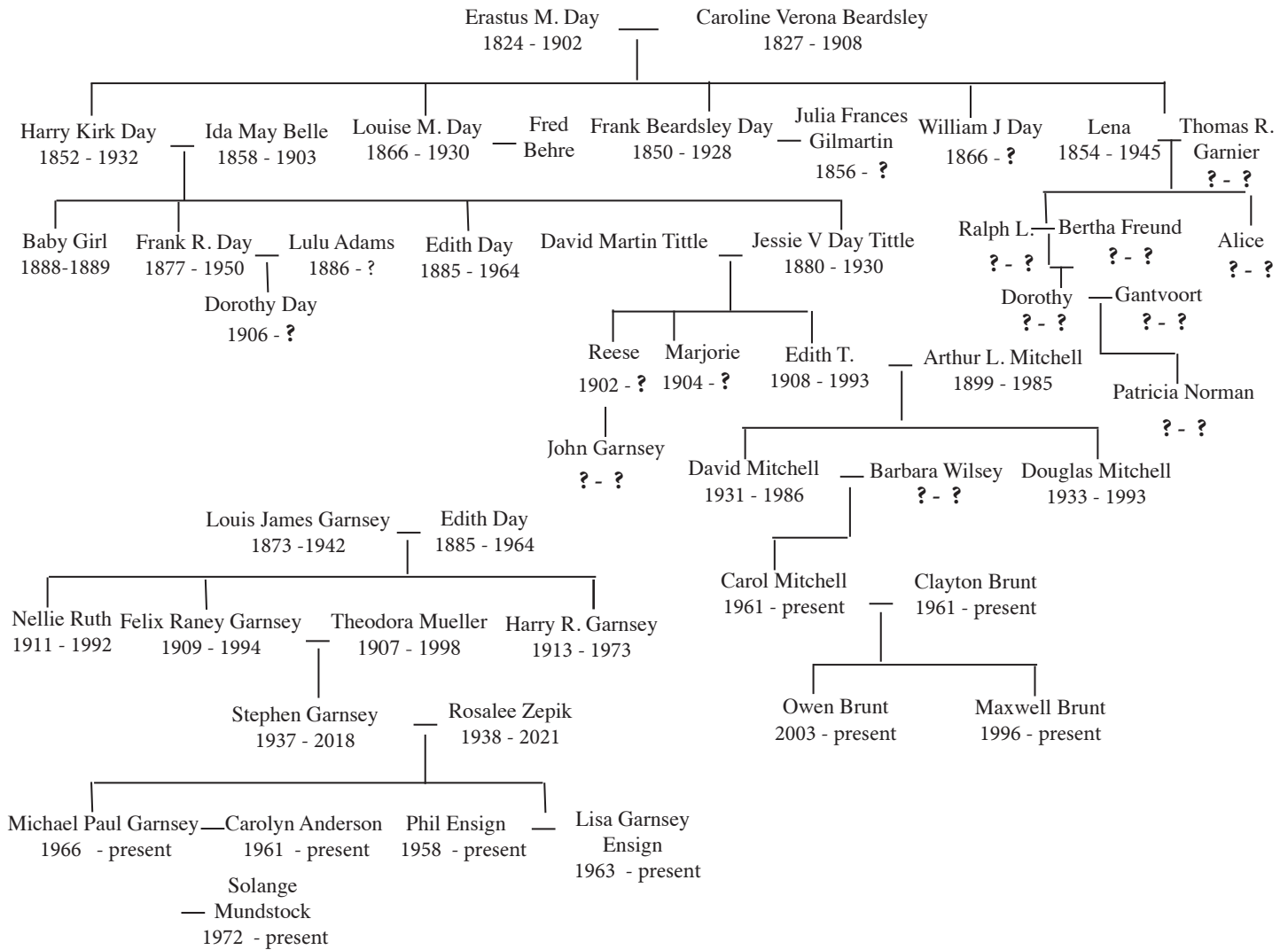
By Jas. D. Forward
JAS. D. FORWARD, President

Attest [Signature]
Assistant Secretary.

Attest [Signature]
Assistant Secretary.

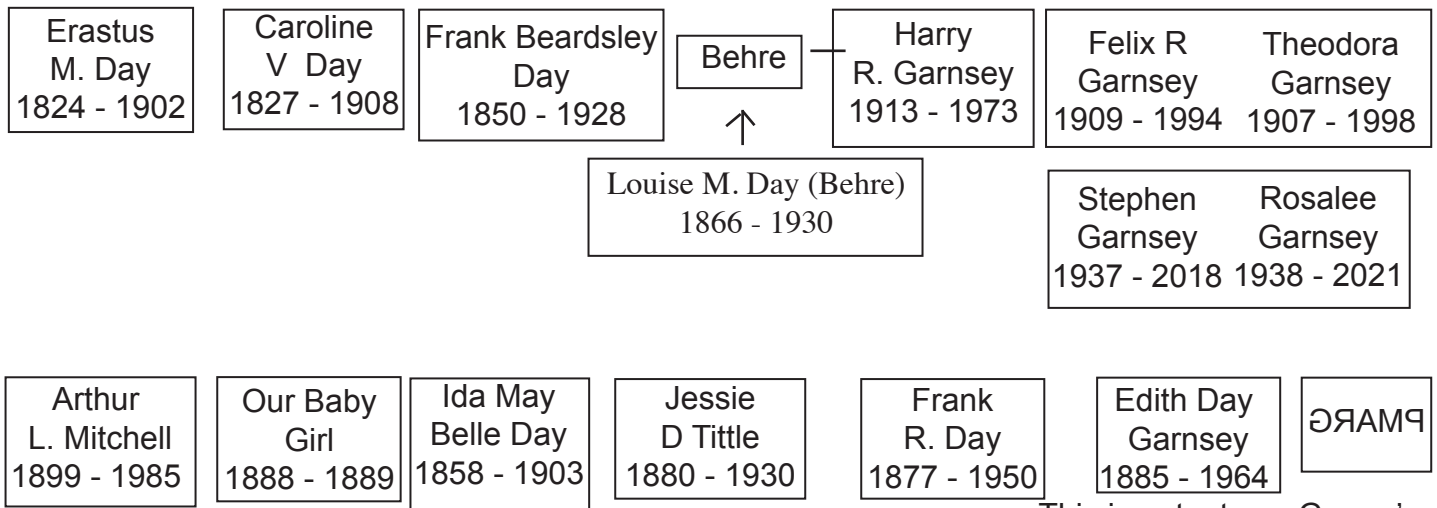
This Policy consists of 10 pages which are numbered at the end of each page.

Day Family Tree



Cemetery on the Garnsey Ranch *

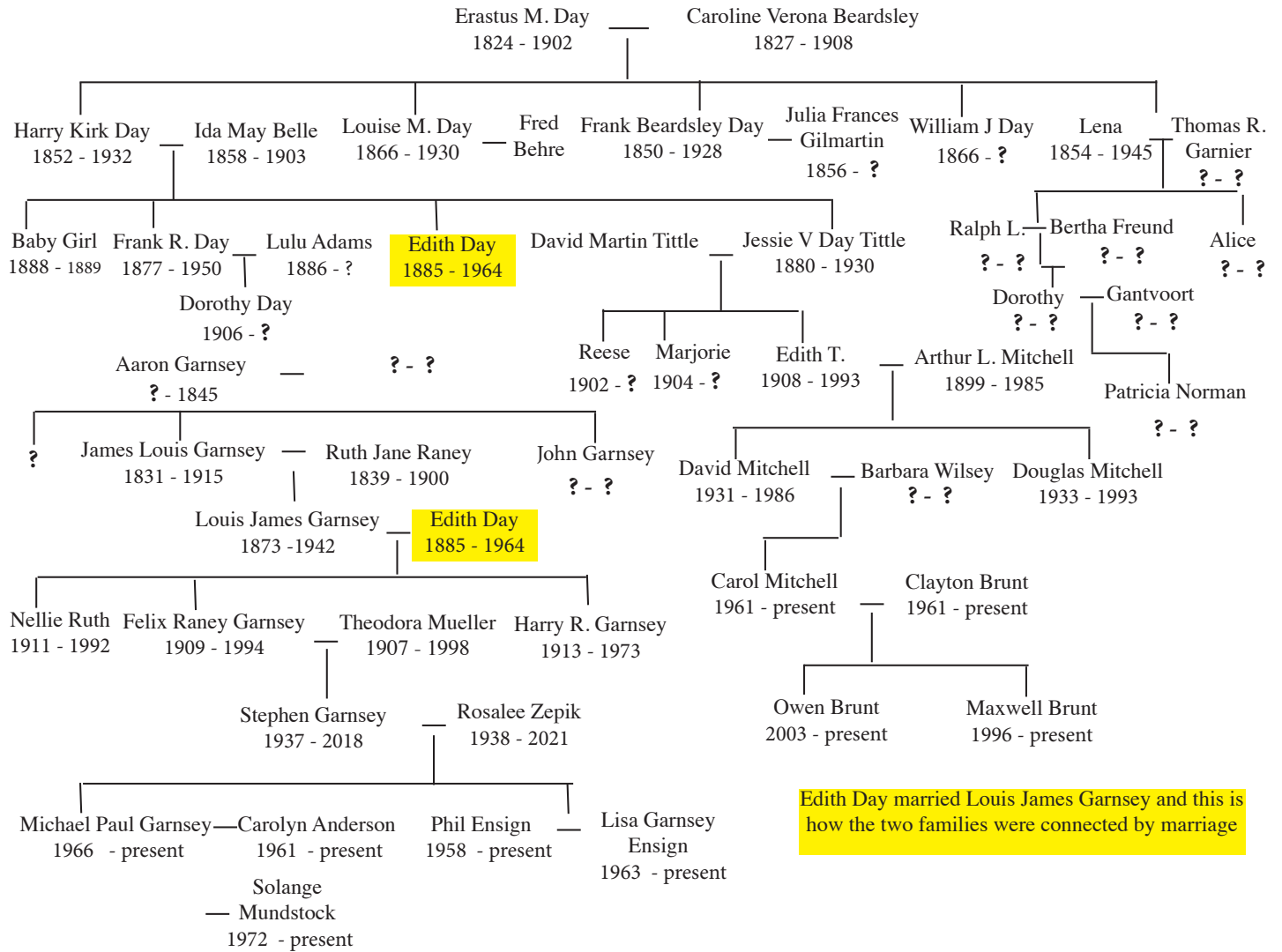
See First Settlers for the Day Family History on this website



*Phoebe Welburn bought the property in 2019

This is not a typo. Gramp's headstone does look like this. His hand print is on the back.

Day and Garnsey Family Trees

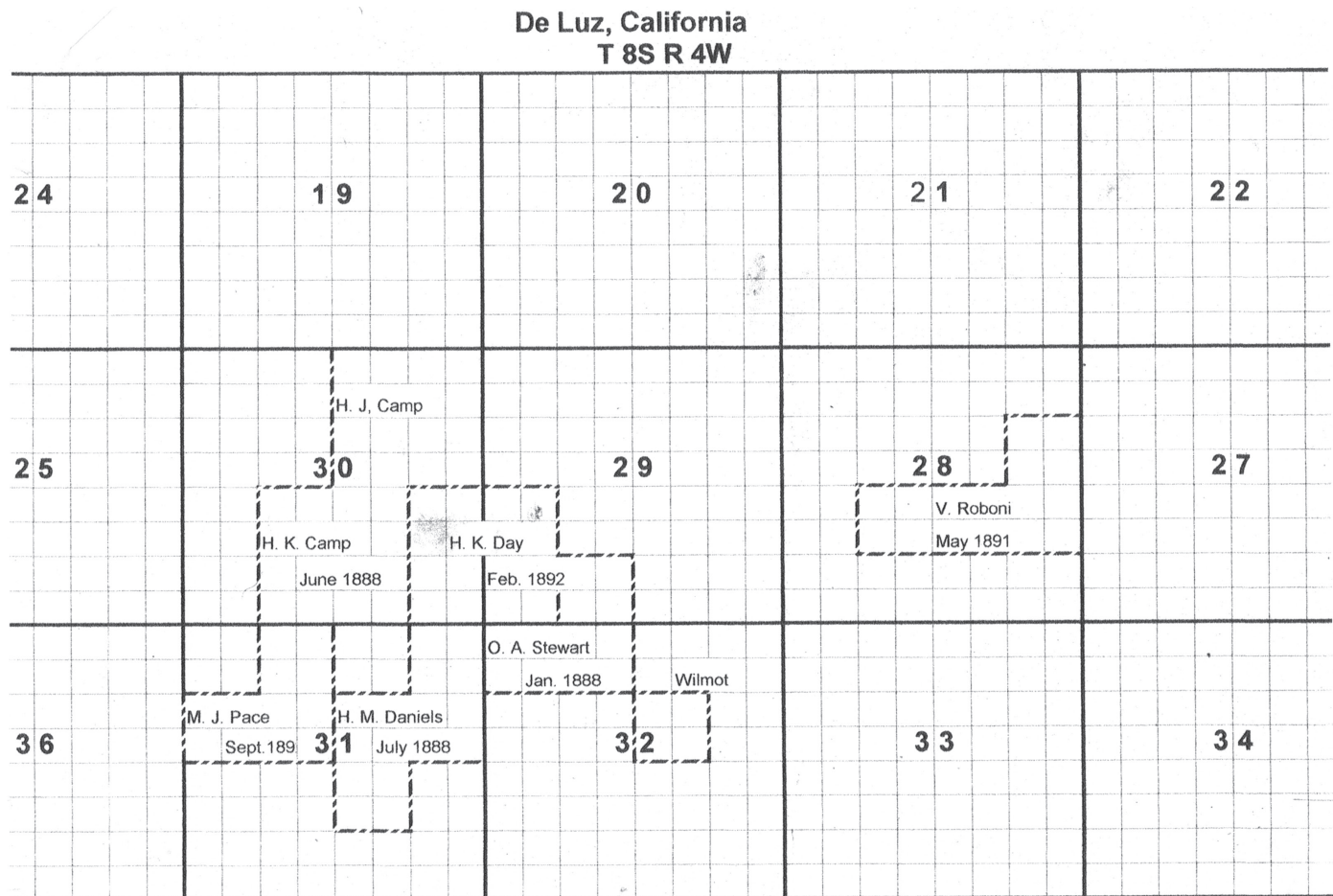


Edith Day married Louis James Garnsey and this is how the two families were connected by marriage



Louis Garnsey's 1914 original post office shed, the pioneering Day house nestled behind the classic picket fence, and grape-drying adobe shed that later become part of the Garnsey Ranch. Don't miss the site of the inaugural Day School, marked on the 1889 plat map (page 16).

1888 Plat Map De Luz from the map file in the De Luz files at the Fallbrook Historical Society.



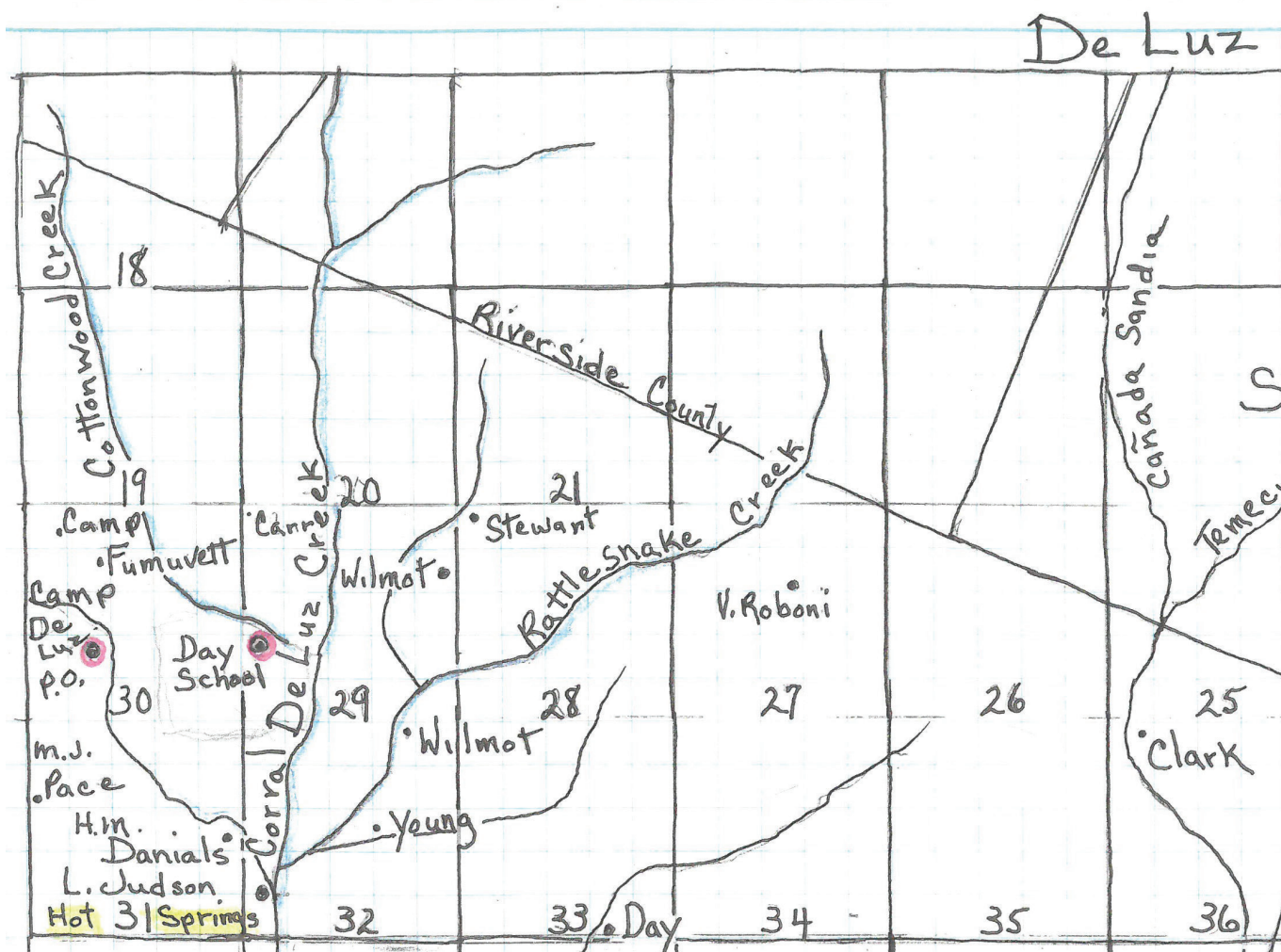
Plat Maps & Property Puzzles of the Days and Garnseys

Historical plat maps reveal numerous properties under the names of both the Day and Garnsey families. However, the intricacies of property transfers remain shrouded in mystery. Curiously, while there’s no deed identified under James Garnsey’s name, the 1912 plat map highlights an “F. R. Garnsey” property near Cottonwood Creek, just north of the Day’s land in Section 19. This leads to speculation: perhaps the property was registered under Felix Raney Garnsey rather than his father’s name.

In 1888, the plat diagram pinpoints the H. K. Day property straddling Sections 29 and 30. The Day Homestead Certificate elaborates: it’s in the west half of the southwest quarter of Section 29 and the east half of the southeast quarter of Section 30. This information aligns with the details on the 1888, 1889, and 1912 plat maps.

Additionally, the 1889 map showcases the Day School in Section 29, taking its place in history as the inaugural school in De Luz.

1889 Plat Map De Luz



De Luz 1889 Plat Map Interpretation

This rendition of the De Luz map is credited to Jan Roll, who deciphered the challenging-to-read original 1889 Plat map. Here are some early settlers and notable points:

Camp: Reverend Henry Camp's land holds significance as one of De Luz's first post office sites.

Harry Kirk Day: commonly referred to as "Gramp," initially owned the land.

Subsequent ownership passed through James Garnsey, Louis Garnsey, Felix R Garnsey, and eventually to Stephen Garnsey.

Notably, the Day School was located here, which later became part of the Garnsey Ranch. Early student records suggest attendees like Jessie and Frank Day, Irvine and Eldon Camp, Joseph and Nellie Carr, Harry Moeller, and the Wilmots - Arthur, Charlie, and Edith. By 1890, these students transitioned to the Santa Rosa Public School, erected on the Wilmot property in 1888. More details are available in the DeLuzHistory.com archives under "De Luz Public School Register."

L. Judson Hot Springs: Identified where the historic hotel stands on De Luz Road.

Stewart: This might be the location of the original Corral De Luz (refer to "Origin of the Name De Luz" on the website).

Wilmot Families: Several Wilmot clans settled along De Luz Murrieta Road:

W. W. Wilmot, 1885: The land later became the Click's property.

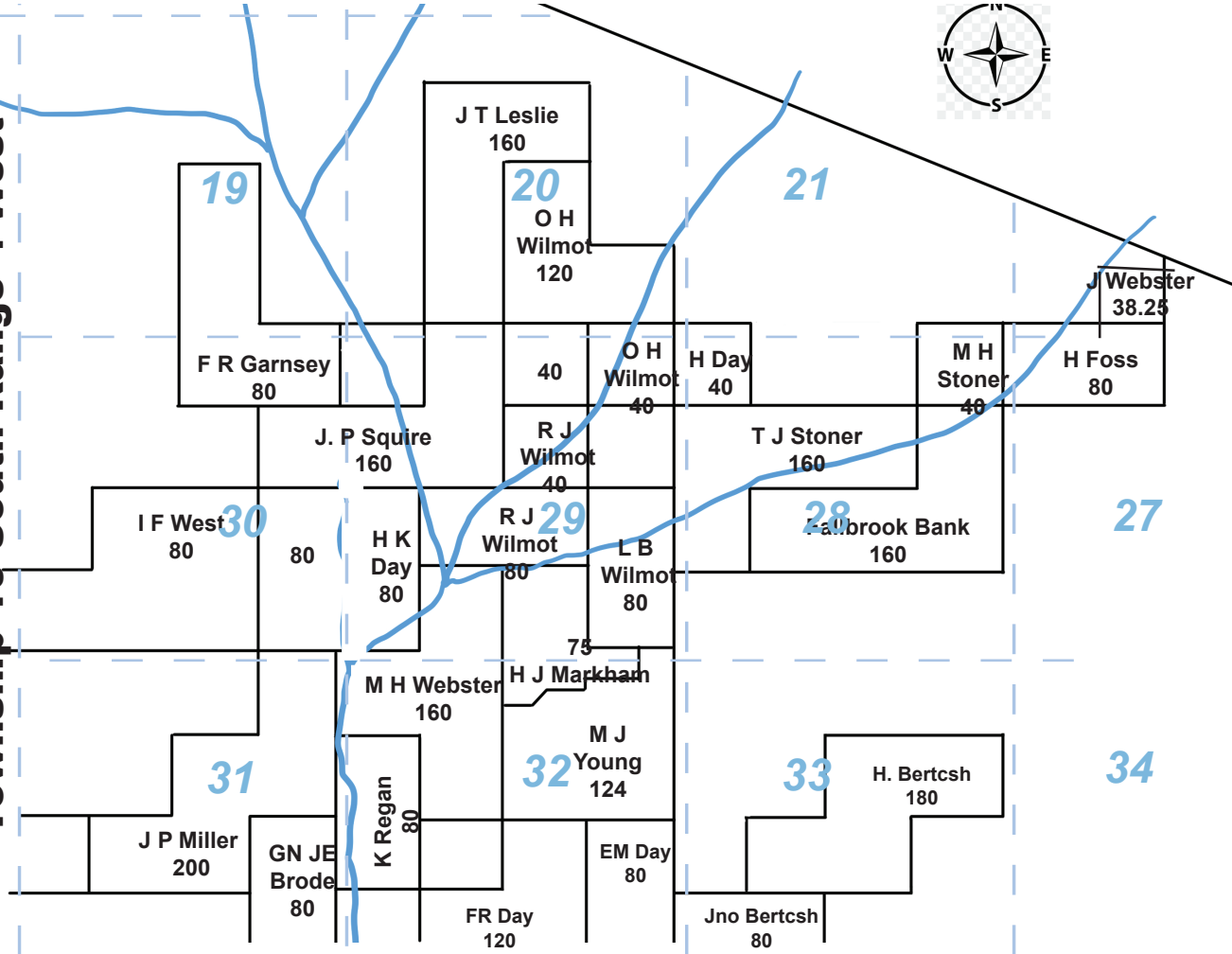
Ross. W. Wilmot, 1888: Eventually, the Bleecker family acquired it.

R. J. Wilmot, 1888.

Vincent Roboni: This property was later known as the Stoner land. Roboni, an Italian immigrant, cultivated grapes, olives, and made wine

Township 8 South Range 4 West.

Township 10 South Range 4 West



Section Line

Section Number

30

Deciphering the Plat Map and Its Historical Inhabitants

F R Garnsey in Section 19: Spanning 80 acres, this likely belonged to Felix Raney Garnsey (1868-1936), James Garnsey’s son, rather than the Felix Garnsey familiar to us from the 1980s and 90s. The land was possibly registered under F. R. Garnsey’s name instead of James.

H. K.’s Dual-Section Property: H. K.’s land stretches between Sections 29 and 30. This aligns with the location of the Day School, as depicted on the 1889 Plat map (see prior page) and H. K.’s property sketch from 1888 on page 11.

E. M Day: This property is assumed to have belonged to Erastus M. Day.

FR Day: Most likely, this property was under the ownership of Frank R Day.

T J Stoner: This land, once under V. Roboni’s name, eventually became T J Stoner’s.

K. Regan: Originally known for Judson’s Warm Mineral Spring.

GN JE Brode: This property transitioned through various owners. Larry Butler once owned it, and currently, it’s under Van Ginkle’s possession.



Original 1889 Plat map



Original 1912 Plat map

