Timeline for my great grandmother, Ann Eliza Lee

By: D Kent Parsons -- December 2019

1849	birth in DeWitt County Texas
1849-1850	The Lees floated down the Guadalupe river to the Gulf of Mexico, went across to New Orleans, up the Mississippi to St Louis, and then up the Missouri to Council Bluffs / Kanesville. They went west in 1850 – but were able to start westward only after the miraculous shower of rain on Sunday, May 19, 1850.
1850 Census	Eliza Lee living with her family in Utah County, Utah
1851	The Lee family moved from Utah to San Bernardino, California.
1858	The Lee family moved from San Bernardino back to Utah. Most of the Wixoms stayed in California, but a few returned temporarily to Utah. Is this when Ann Eliza Lee previously knew Willard Ammon Wixom? – she was 9 or 10, and he was in his early 20's when the Lee's returned to Utah.
1860 Census	Anna E Lee living with her family in Beaver
October 27, 1866	Indian Raid at the Lee Ranch in Hawthorne Dell – just a few miles SE of Beaver. Annie was not home at the time.
May 1867	John Percival Lee leaves for his mission to the Southern States
August 1868	John Percival Lee returns from his mission to the Southern States
October 1868	First Marriage at age 19 to Edward Washington Thompson in Salt Lake City (the endowment house) It was a plural marriage for him. According to great Aunt Rosalind, he apostatized from the church shortly after the marriage.
1870 census	Ann E Lee (living with her mother Eliza Foscue) in Beaver UT
September 25, 1871	E W Thompson was the foreman of the Grand Jury which indicted John P. Lee for adultery (i.e., polygamy) in the Second Judicial Court in Beaver. In later years, Edward Washington Thompson was an active supportive member of the Methodist Church in Beaver which was dedicated to fight

against "Brighamism".

October 5, 1873

"Annie has not commenced school yet the house is not ready." – from a letter written by Eliza Foscue to her sister Mariah Foscue (Smith Thomas).

June 13, 1875

"Annie is tending the telegraph office at Minersville for twenty five dollars a month with promise of more as she gains in experience I had a letter from her yesterday she seems well satisfied." -- from a letter written by Eliza Foscue to her sister Mariah. Minersville is about 18 miles west of Beaver (and a little bit south).

Nov. 9, 1875

Letter from Beaver Stake President John Murdock to Brigham Young concerning Anna Thompson and some possible probate court legal action. (see either the John R. Murdock or the Brigham Young collection of letters at the Church History Library).

Nov. 18, 1875

From the Salt Lake Herald Republican: "Telegraph Extension. The Deseret telegraph company opened an office, yesterday in Minersville, Beaver County, with Miss Annie Thompson, operator,"

May 20, 1877

Annie wrote a letter from Beaver to her cousin Lois Angeline Smith (Bushman) and signed it as Annie Thompson. "My school term is drawing near its close, and I am not sorry; for as the weather grows warmer, I find myself wishing it was done. The weather is beautifully bright, (but there will be scarcely any fruit this season) but the trees are green again, and the town is looking lovely, especially since the moon is large enough to flood the valley with her mellow light. The last few evenings were truly enchanting."

June 24, 1877

"Annie's school is closed and she has gone to visit with Lucinda." – from a letter from Eliza Foscue to her niece Lois Angeline Smith (Bushman) Lucinda was living in Circle Valley at the time – Circle Valley eventually became Circleville.

July 22, 1877

"Annie is still with Lu were both well last week." – from a letter from Eliza Foscue to her niece Lois Angeline Smith (Bushman).

Friday, Jan 4, 1878

Death of Manasseh Blackburn in Savoia NM (now a ghost town – but not too far from Ramah NM and also about 28 miles south of Fort Wingate – where the residents of Savoia got their mail) due to smallpox. He had been helping to minister to some others who had contracted the disease. He was possibly the man mentioned in the story that great Aunt Rosalind tells of Annie's premonition of the death of a grown son of the family she was living with while working at the telegraph office. Manasseh's parents lived and ranched near Minersville and also ran a boarding house in town.

According to great Aunt Rosalind, the man was away for work and was not expected home anytime soon. Annie's room was separated from his room by only a hanging carpet or tapestry. After sensing that he came home late one night – and then finding his room still unoccupied in the morning, Annie asked his parents the next morning if he had come home. They said that he had not. She received a telegram later that morning informing the family of their son's death. She interpreted the experience as the man's desire to visit home one more time after his passing.

In Aunt Rosalind's version, the man died in a drowning accident, but otherwise I think Manasseh Blackburn's story fits in very well with her account. BTW, Manasseh was single, "very good looking", and close to Annie in age ... Manasseh worked for John Hunt – who as a 13 year old was in the Mormon Battalion for a while until he was sent from Santa Fe NM to Pueblo Colorado with the sick detachment. There in Pueblo, he would have spent time with the Mississippi Mormons. In 1851, John went with his family (his father was Jefferson Hunt) to San Bernardino and then returned to Utah at Brigham Young's call and settled in Beaver – just like the Lees.

~1879

Separation of Willard Ammon Wixom and Anna Allen, his first wife. (when their youngest son, George Hadlock Wixom, was about 4 years old) in San Bernardino, California.

1880 census

Anna Thompson (born in Texas) in Bridgeport, Mono, California – living not too far from her brother Charles Andrew Lee -- but 320+ miles from San Bernardino. Nevertheless, did Annie and Willard have any contact in this time frame?

November 3, 1880

the current baptism and confirmation dates for Ann Eliza Lee in Family Search. Presumably, these dates were for a re-baptism and re-confirmation, perhaps in preparation for her upcoming second marriage.

January 1, 1881

Second Marriage at age 32 to Patrick Henry McGuire in the St. George Temple. He was a fairly recent immigrant from Ireland and later a convert to the church from Catholicism and had been married to his first wife, "Lizzie", for about 6 years.

June 1881

"The first Sunday School was organized (on Sunday) June 5, 1881, in a small log house belonging to Annie Thompson (later Annie Wixom) by Bishop William King of the Kingston Ward and Thomas Day, Presiding Elder." – According to a DUP publication. Kingston is about 4 miles SE of Junction. (A Dalton-Whitaker history of Kingston says May 1881.)

March 12, 1882

Birth of Rupert Lee McGuire in Washington County Utah. St George is most prominent town in Washington County. Because of the Lee family's southern background and admiration for Robert E. Lee, Rupert added the E initial and called himself Rupert E Lee Wixom / McGuire.

February 10, 1883

"... We have a good day school in session under the direction and able management of Anna McGuire. ... " a letter to the Deseret News from Washington County reporting on events and happenings.

1883

I believe the McGuire families moved from Washington County back to Wallsburg in Wasatch County (east and above Salt Lake City). Patrick Henry McGuire and Sarah Elizabeth ("Lizzie") Parcell had originally met in Wallsburg, married, and had their first son before moving to Washington County in late 1876 or early 1877. Their next 3 children were born in Washington County (1877-1881), and then their last 8 were born (1884 onward) back in Wallsburg (or nearby Daniel; 11 miles away).

Note that great Aunt Rosalind has the McGuire families living in Beaver at this time – presumably based on Alice Hilda McGuire's birth and death location. I think the McGuires were actually in Wallsburg during this time.

Sept '84 – May '85

my best guess is that Ann Eliza Lee left Wallsburg and returned to Beaver in this time frame, pregnant with her second child. She considered the marriage to be over and herself to be divorced. (Beaver and Wallsburg are 180+ miles apart.) According to great Aunt Rosalind, Annie taught school again for a while in Beaver.

This was the time sometimes known in Utah history as "The Raid". Federal marshals were everywhere – searching for and arresting polygamists. President John Taylor went into hiding and died in 1887. Some "cohabs" fled to Mexico or to Canada. Some prominent church leaders went on missions to distant lands. Eventually, around 1100 persons served prison time for their belief in and or practice of plural marriage, including some wives and children.

I also wonder if Annie felt like an outsider in the small town of Wallsburg.

BTW, the "milk leg" referred to by great Aunt Rosalind is the condition of blood clots in a woman's leg shortly after childbirth. It is very painful and very dangerous.

May 17, 1885 Birth of her daughter Alice Hilda McGuire in Beaver

April 9, 1886 A poem entitled "Winter" by Mrs. Annie McGuire was published in the

Manti Sentinel Newspaper. Annie's sister, Ellen, and her husband, J.

Thomas Jakeman, owned and ran the newspaper at the time.

Winter (Mrs. Annie McGuire)

The poets have sung their praises of the tender buds of Spring And of radiant blooming Summer when birds and streamlets sing.

Of the Luscious fruits of Autumn Its golden harvest sheaves And its sunsets amber and crimson on the brilliant forest leaves.

But, I would sing of that season when drifts the stainless snow Deep over the sweet dead flowers which the cruel frosts laid low.

Then round the social hearth we meet (Kind Heaven guard those who roam) And mingle in that converse sweet which binds the heart to home.

Then soft and deep the snows downfall and cloth the earth anew And an awesome silence stillness holds in thrall the long dark night hours through.

And pale as pearls the morning dawns o'er the bridal earth And the brief day goes; but to its close it rings with sounds of mirth

Or when the frosty nights are clear and glitter countless stars And a mystic reigns o'er all outside my window bars

And faintly comes the music of sleighbells merry chimes And sounds of happy laughter borne backward on the 'winds

And the children's gladsome eyes are closed in slumbers warm and sleep The lamps burn low and the firelight's glow gildeth a picture sweet.

Of warmth and peace, and comfort; May it be ours to spend Such cozy restful evenings with a treasured book or friend.

Note: The original publication had a typo, "luscious friends", which was corrected 1 week later in the paper to "luscious fruits".

September 6, 1886 Death of her daughter Alice Hilda McGuire – buried in Beaver

September 24, 1886 "Two applicants for teacher's certificates were examined by the Board of Examination last Saturday -- Mrs. A. S. Andersom and Mrs. A. McGuire

	both passed a good examination." Clipping from a Beaver newspaper, The Southern Utonian.
~1887	The Lee's sold the house in Beaver that John Rupert Lee built for his mother. Eliza and Lucinda and Rosamund moved to Manti. Eliza Foscue Lee and her daughters did a lot of Foscue/Fortescue temple work in the Manti Temple. Would they have known Willard Bean? He was a personal assistant to the first Manti Temple President, Daniel H. Wells.
September 18, 1887	Third Marriage at age 38 to Willard Ammon Wixom in Provo, Utah – There is a Friday, September 23, 1887 newspaper clipping in San Bernardino announcing his return with his bride from the "land of the saints". Did he make the trip to Utah just to marry Ann Eliza Lee? Had they been writing? Did he ever work for the telegraph company?
November 18, 1888	Birth of her daughter Lillian Lenore Wixom in San Bernardino
1889 and 1891	Lucinda arranged for subscriptions to the Young Woman's Journal for her sister living in San Bernardino
Fall 1890	The "Manifesto" was announced by Church President Wilford Woodruff which was the first big step towards the elimination of the plural marriage system. A second Manifesto was announced in 1904 by Church President Joseph F. Smith and it applied to Mexico and Canada as well.
	Lucinda wrote to Susa Young Gates and reported that "Mother sends her love, and says your Temple work is progressing steadily, and as soon as it is compiled she will report to you. She was hindered one whole week by a visit from a daughter (<i>Ann Eliza Lee Wixom</i>) who lives in California"
December 1891	"Annie had been urging mother for some time to come and visit her and since I was to be away so long, she thought it a favorable time for her visit, so it works well all around." from a letter from Lucinda Dalton (writing from Payson) to John and Lois Angeline Smith Bushman.
Jan 5, 1892	In a letter written from San Bernardino to Susa Young Gates, Eliza Foscue says "I left Utah in haste the third of December in answer to a summons from Annie Wixom who is in poor health now and expecting confinement in the near future" and "Lucinda is teaching school in Payson"
February 23, 1892	Birth of her daughter Rosalind Lelia Wixom in San Bernardino
~1894	Willard and Annie and family moved to Circleville, Utah (according to

great Aunt Rosalind who says she was 2 at the time of the move). They

bought some property, and he later built a fine brick home at one end of the property. There is a picture of the family of Willard A Wixom in front of the house he built for the family in Circleville. (The picture is available (free) online from the George Edward Anderson Photograph Collection at BYU.) The house stood until 21 April 1946, Easter Sunday, when it was destroyed by an accidental fire.

Circleville is about 6 miles SW of Junction in Piute County Utah

1895

In a 2003 book entitled, "A History of Circleville, Utah", Rollo Lorin Fullmer gives a list of Circleville men who attended a Circleville Town Board meeting to organize a corporation to control irrigation water on the east-side canals. Among the 99 men listed is a "W. A. Wixom". Also Jorgen Jensen, James E Peterson, Laban Morrill, and Joseph Meeks ...

Sept. 4, 1897

According to Circleville Ward records, Lillian was baptized by L. D. Morrill (Laban D. Morrill – 1850-1933 -- a long time first counsellor in the Circleville Ward). FamilySearch also gives Sept. 4 for her confirmation.

Oct. 18, 1897

Rupert was ordained and set apart as a Teacher (in the Aaronic Priesthood) by Jos. Meeks in the Circleville Ward. (See Joseph Meeks (1857-1913), buried at Circleville)

Sept - Oct 1898

Anna E Wixom of Circleville was a Democratic candidate for county recorder; According to great Aunt Rosalind, she won an election, and served for one year. Her opponent was the Republican Mrs. M. M. Johnson. If I might hazard a correction, I think it might have been for one term instead of one year.

Jan. 31, 1899

There was a contentious public meeting in Circleville relative to the need to construct another school. Two years earlier, a bond election had failed nearly unanimously and the bond proposal was not very popular this time either. Among the speakers against the bond were Mrs. A. E. Wixom and Bishop J. P. Jensen. The outcome of the meeting was to appoint a committee to investigate the need and cost of a new building and to unite by donation if it was determined to go forward. I have both a Salt Lake Herald version and a Salt Lake Tribune version of the story. Not surprisingly, the Tribune casts Bishop Jensen as being against the education of children

The main proponent of the bond issue was a Mrs. M. M. Johnson. Her husband was William Johnson (an older half-brother of Willis Johnson) and William was the superintendent of Piute County Schools at the time.

The context of this school funding dispute was probably the struggle over the educational system in Utah as it became a state. In earlier pioneer times, local communities and intrepid teachers ran small primary (i.e., elementary) schools – with most of the community being members of the church. At secondary (i.e., mid and high school) educational levels, stakes often set up and ran church academies. However, as more "gentiles" came into Utah, alternate schooling became available.

Of course, over time, the public school systems gradually won the day over religious schools and some of the church academies were closed while others evolved into junior colleges.

The first Bishop in Circleville was James Ephraim Peterson. He was called when the ward was organized in 1887 and served till 1896, and then again from 1903/1904 to 1915. He also served for a while on the Piute County Commission. Jorgen Peder Jensen (KW8B-586) was the Bishop between 1896 and 1903 – until he had a gallstone attack and an operation. Bishop Jensen spent his final years in Burley, Idaho and is buried in the same cemetery as George Granata, Jr.

By at least late 1903, Bishop Peterson was back as the Bishop in Circleville.

August 24, 1899

A new 2nd Counsellor and a new ward clerk (Willis Johnson) were put into the Circleville Bishopric of Bishop Jensen by Apostle Richard Lyman and Stake President Jesse Wentworth Crosby, Jr. Perhaps the new ward clerk updated the membership records and came across the McGuire marriage. Or perhaps he heard of it as he travelled around the state on business.

Fall 1899

Separation of Willard Ammon Wixom and Ann Eliza Lee which happened after (from Great Aunt Rosalind) Bishop Jensen told her that she was still legally married to Patrick Henry McGuire – since there had not been a temple divorce. Willard took 2 horses and some personal belongings (according to great Aunt Rosalind) and returned to California. The rest of the family never saw him again, though the girls wrote letters and sent pictures to him from time to time. The Circleville property and home were already in Annie's name.

Historical sources from Piute County always refer to Ann Eliza Lee as Annie Thompson Wixom or Annie Thompson (later Wixom). I don't think that very many of them, if any, knew about the McGuire marriage. I also speculate that Ann Eliza Lee lived in Kingston in the 1870's and that is maybe why she owned a cabin which was later used for Sunday School. Alternatively, maybe the cabin was Emma's or Lucinda's from the time when they lived in Circle Valley as wives of Charles W. Dalton.

Dec 14, 1899

in a Dec 18 Salt Lake Herald news clipping entitled "Woman Won Out" and subtitled, "Piute Attorney Objected to Extra Pay" – "Junction, Dec. 14; The county commissioners finished up their business for the year 1899 this afternoon after a 2 days' session. The only incident of note was a lively tilt between the county recorder, Mrs. Annie E Wixom, and County Attorney Osborne. It appears that the commissioners had entered into a contract with Mrs. Wixom to copy the Gold Mountain mining records and agreed to pay therefor the sum of \$250. Yesterday, she reported the work completed and presented her bill for the amount agreed upon. County Attorney Osborne objected to the commissioners paying any part of the bill, holding that she must accept her salary as full compensation for all services rendered. The lady came out victor, as the commissioners ignored the advise (sic) of the attorney and paid the bill."

Jan 1900

Two newspaper clippings from San Bernardino which show that Willard Ammon Wixom was already back in California very early in January 1900. (1) is a story on Jan. 3 involves an arrest warrant of someone who had shot a horse belonging to W. A. Wixom. – and (2) is a Jan. 29 story of how he accidentally shot himself in his left hand and had to walk ~16 miles (at age 63) to get medical help.

Great Aunt Rosalind says that he went back to California in 1900 – but I think it actually was a little earlier, based on the 2 newspaper clippings from San Bernardino.

April 14, 1900

Death of 12 year old Hazel Morrill (daughter of John Morrill and Ella LeBaron Morrill) in Junction, Piute, Utah — of which event Annie had had a premonition — according to great Aunt Rosalind's written memories of her mother. She shared the premonition with Hazel's mother before anything happened. Afterwards, Hazel's mother told Annie that she was comforted by having been forewarned.

The John and Ella Morrill home is still there in Circleville and is now on the National Register of Historic Places. The county recorder's office was in the Morrill home at the time that Annie worked there. Annie and the 3 kids were living in Circleville, but Annie worked as the county recorder in Junction. Later, Annie became a school teacher in Kingston and the family moved there for a short while.

May 24, 1900

Rupert E. Lee Wixom of Circleville, Utah officially registered his cattle brand. He was 18 years old.

1900 census

On June 1, Annie E Wixene (sic) lived in Kingston, Piute, Utah, United States -- with 3 children, Rupert, Lillian, and Rosalind. According to the census, she was married and had been married for 12 years.

August 1900

At a meeting of the Junction Democrats, a news article's sub heading is "On a Pointed Reminder, They Gave Ladies the Leavings" "... When it came to alternates, Mrs. A. E. Wixom thought it about time to recognize the women. The convention took the hint and elected Mrs. Wixom and Miss C. A. DeWitt to the state convention."

Dec 1901

Mrs. A. E. Wixom (among others) was delinquent on some property taxes in Circleville. 53 acres is mentioned and her tax bill was about \$42.

Sept 6-7, 1902

Rosalind was baptized by L. D. Morrill, and confirmed by R. A. Richey (Robert Alma Richey (1858-1932))

1903

Rupert Wixom (and others) served on a Circleville road crew for repair and construction for either 3 days with a team or 6 days without a team and received a \$3 tax credit

10 June 1903

Rupert was ordained a priest by (Bishop) J. E. Peterson according to the early membership records of the Circleville ward held in Church Archives.

Early to 1904

Rupert. Lillian, and Rosalind are listed as members of the Circleville Ward; their mother is listed as Annie Lee, and their father as Wixom. Curiously, Ann Eliza Lee is not listed as a member. Also, some dates are given for baptism, confirmation, and ordination for the kids. See p. 21.

~1900-1906

Butch Cassidy's (aka Robert LeRoy Parker) father (Maximillian Parker) doorbell-ditched a ham to the widow Annie Wixom in Circleville – in this time window. (This incident comes from Lula Betenson's book (p. 232) on her brother Butch Cassidy. Lula was Butch's baby sister.)

"But my parents charity didn't stop at tithing; and their help was always given quietly. One day Annie Wixom stopped me on the street. She was a widow, having a very hard time getting along. "Who do you think left a ham on my doorstep this morning?" she asked.

"the bishop, I guess," I replied.

"Don't you believe it. It was your father."

"How do you know?"

She winked, "I saw him hurrying out the gate – thought I wouldn't see him"

Annie and the family initially lived in Circleville, then Kingston for a short while, before moving back to Circleville.

June 8, 1904

Rupert received his Temple Endowment at the Manti Temple. By this time he had completed 2 years of normal schooling in Cedar City. The school is now known as Southern Utah University. On June 20, 1906 Rupert married Sara Perry Middleton in the St. George Temple and established a home in Murray, Utah where he had obtained a teaching job. He had just finished his schooling in Cedar City and Salt Lake City. He was active in early Utah Socialist Party activities.

Early to 1917

Rupert L Wixom and Rosalind Wixom are listed as 252 and 253 (of 641 members) of the Circleville Ward with Annie E. Lee as their mother and Rosalind's baptismal and confirmation dates are given as before. Neither Lillian nor Ann Eliza Lee are listed as members in this membership list. Had Lillian already moved to Manti?

Sept 29, 1906

A. E. Wixom's commission as a notary public expired. She had been a notary public since before 1903.

Late Summer 1906

Annie and the girls moved to Manti and lived with her mother Eliza Foscue and sister Lucinda Dalton. They sold the land in Circleville for \$850 and A. Whitaker is named in the record. In Dalton and Whitaker family records, a purchase price of \$1500 is mentioned for the "Wixom mansion". It was called a mansion because it had a very large front room – which the Daltons and Whitakers believed was designed as a school room; since Annie and Rupert were school teachers.

"Mrs. Annie Wixon, a schoolteacher before she came to Circleville, built the home. Her son, Rupert Wixom (also a schoolteacher) came to Circleville to help her. This may explain the large front room in the house. It may have been the intentions of these two schoolteachers to have a school in the home. The room was about 24 x 36 feet -- (864 square feet) as large as a small home.

Bishop James Ephriam Peterson and his daughter Virginia, were the primary organizers of the Circleville Equitable Purchasing Agency (a local version of ZCMI). Ann Wixom became associated with their effort and was well acquainted with the young Virginia. Their friendship grew and when Mrs. Wixom became the Piute County Recorder she hired Virginia to write the records. Virginia's outstanding penmanship is in evidence in all of the records she kept both personal and public.

Virginia also worked for Mrs. Wixom as a housekeeper. She was enchanted by the elegance of the mansion. In 1907, it was almost 8 years after her marriage to Charles R. Dalton, Virginia heard that Mrs. Wixom was going to sell her mansion. Virginia went to Charles and asked him to buy it for her. Charles went to Arthur Whittaker, a local banker, and borrowed \$1,500.00. (The amount he lacked to pay cash.)"

Great Aunt Rosalind mentions that her mother hired a housekeeper in this time frame – so the housekeeper may well have been Virginia Peterson – a daughter of Bishop James E. Peterson.

Annie was diagnosed with spasmodic asthma. Shots of adrenaline chloride usually helped suppress the asthma attacks. Either Lillian or Rosalind administered the shots. Annie first saw a doctor in Panguitch (~25 miles south and where the stake was then centered) and later spent

some time in a Salt Lake City hospital.

Lillian attended Manti High School for 1 year; the school was in its second year of existence in 1906-1907.

February 9, 1907

Annie (with Rosalind) moved to Venice California (it is part of Los Angeles) – where her Sister Emma Roberta Lee (Dalton, Sutherland) and her niece Rosa Lee (a daughter of John Rupert Lee) helped take care of her. Lillian stayed behind in Manti. Great Aunt Rosalind gives this date as early January 1907, but news clippings from the Salt Lake Telegram and the Salt Lake Tribune (from Feb 9 and Feb 11, respectively) list "A. E. Wixom and R. Wixom" as passengers on a train from Salt Lake City to Los Angeles on Feb. 9.

March 1907

Annie and Rosalind moved to a cabin in the Monterey Hills near John Rupert Lee. Another niece, Sephina Lee, also began to help. Lillian joined them when her school year in Manti, Utah ended.

November 1907

Annie and the girls moved to San Diego – where her sister Emma lived.

May 6, 1908

death in San Diego, California – the shots had become ineffective and she was drugged with morphine for the last few days of her life. A funeral was held in San Diego.

May 1908

A 2nd funeral was held at the residence of Eliza Foscue Lee in Manti before the burial. All 3 of her living kids (Rupert, Lillian, and Rosalind) were there. Ann Eliza Lee was buried in the Manti Cemetery.

Summer 1908

Rupert and his wife and Lillian and Rosalind moved to Thatcher AZ. He had obtained a teaching position at the LDS Gila Academy (now Eastern Arizona College). Lillian finished high school after 1 year in Thatcher and started attending Tempe Normal School (now ASU).

The first Stake President in Thatcher was Christopher Layton (of Layton, Utah fame) and the second Stake President (starting in 1898) was Andrew Kimball – the father of Spencer W. Kimball.

April 7, 1915

During a mayoral campaign, a controversy broke out about Willard Wixom being an inmate of the county hospital. The allegation was that George H Wixom refused to support his aged father. Willard Wixom issued the following sworn affidavit on April 6. "I have been a resident of the county of San Bernardino since 1854: I have been an inmate of the county hospital for the past two years, and I went to that Institution of my own free will in order to spare my son, George H. Wixom, the expense of caring for me: my son George H. Wixom offered to provide a home for me, but as he was crippled and had a wife and four children and his aged mother to provide for, and as I had been a large taxpayer in this county for many years, I felt had a right to be cared for by the county in my declining years, and I did not want to add to my son's already heavy burden of expense. My son, George H. Wixom, has always been kind and considerate in his treatment of me." The mayor at the time was a J. W. Catick.

Jan 14, 1916

Death of Willard Ammon Wixom in San Bernardino, California. At the time, his son, George Hadlock Wixom, was the mayor of San Bernardino and very active in the RLDS church. Willard's obituary does mention his step-son Rupert and his daughters Lillian and Rosalind. He wasn't actually buried till Jan 21 (some days after the funeral) because of some flooding.

George H Wixom was the mayor of San Bernardino from May 1915 till May 1919.

Sources:

Our great Aunt Rosalind Lelia Wixom Sessions wrote up 2 articles about her mother – a life sketch and a memories.

Newspaper clippings

Court Records from Beaver Utah

Land Records from Piute County (though I haven't yet found a record of Willard and Annie's original Circleville land purchase.)