

Daniel Rouse



Gallatin History Museum



D. E. Russell

BOZEMAN.

[DIRECTLY ACROSS THE ROAD FROM ALDERSON, IN THE SECOND ROW WEST OF THE ROAD AND UNDER A LARGE PINE, IS A DISTINCTIVE HEADSTONE MADE OF A LARGE PIECE OF PETRIFIED WOOD AND MARKED WITH A BRONZE PLAQUE IDENTIFYING THE ROUSE PLOT.]

12. DANIEL ROUSE: b. 1834, d. 1912

Born on a farm in Michigan in 1834, Daniel Rouse spent his earliest years in the Midwest. In 1861, Rouse entered a partnership with a man named Vetter, who was interested in driving a large amount of stock to California. In Council Bluffs, Iowa, a wagon train was put under Rouse's supervision. Hiring five men to assist him Rouse led the train and Vetter's cattle along the Oregon Trail to Fort Laramie, where Vetter broke his contract with Rouse.

Rouse proceeded to Denver, and in 1862 guided a wagon train to Montana. There he prospected, farmed, and freighted at Bannack, Deer Lodge, Missoula, and eventually the Gallatin Valley, where Rouse staked off a plat for himself. Hoping to attract others to the area, Rouse traveled to Virginia City where he met up with John Bozeman and William Beall. Granting Bozeman and Beall some of his land in the Gallatin Valley, Rouse induced the two men to join him in laying out a townsite along Bozeman's trail. In the summer of 1864 Rouse erected the first log cabin in Bozeman.

Following the establishment of Bozeman, Rouse profited handsomely from a variety of real estate ventures. One hundred and sixty acres of Rouses land were located within the original townsite. On numerous occasions, Rouse assisted in the building up of the town by giving away the principle part of his main street holdings to men who would build there.

Rouse's grave was rediscovered in the late 1980s, and remarked by the Gallatin County Pioneer Society.

Rouse

→ Daniel E. Rouse was born September 30, 1834 in Michigan. He wandered extensively but came to Gallatin City in 1863. Continued his wandering but returned and took up a claim on Reese Creek. In the fall of 1864, he put up the first house (log) in Bozeman.

Progressive Men of the State of Montana

D. E. Rouse located in Gallatin Valley, January, 1864, on Reese Creek. In July, 1864, he took up land on which the city of Bozeman now stands,--he being the first to locate there. He laid out a townsite, had four blocks surveyed and erected first building within the present city limits (now occupied by the Wilson Company on Main Street). In 1866, he took up the ranch of 160 acres located about five miles east of Bozeman. (There was no mention of Fort Ellis in this article.)



Daniel Rouse
born 1834 in Michigan
died 1912



Daniel Rouse came with his brother, Elisha, to Bannack in 1862 looking for gold. By 1863, he and William Beall had seen the agricultural possibilities of the Gallatin Valley and had established a ranch near Three Forks. In 1864, John Bozeman talked to them about laying out a townsite in the Upper Gallatin Valley near the pass. Rouse and Beall purchased land for themselves and for John Bozeman on the site of present day Bozeman. Rouse surveyed the site and constructed the first house, a log cabin, to be built in Bozeman. The cabin was built on the south side of Main Street just east of Bozeman Avenue where the Baltimore Hotel is now. He is considered one of the three founders of Bozeman. He later moved outside of town to work as a freighter.

It was Rouse and his brother who sold five acres of land to "Lord" Blackmore so that he could have a cemetery built for his wife, "Lady Blackmore," who had died as they traveled through the area. This is now Sunset Hills Cemetery.

Rouse had a peculiar habit - he never wore socks. Rouse poured bear grease or suet onto his square-toed boots to keep his feet lubricated.

By Steve Bates

Grave of Bozeman's first homesteader will be marked

BOZEMAN (AP) — The grave of Bozeman's first homesteader, Daniel Elliott Rouse, is finally getting a headstone, after 80 years of anonymity.

Rouse, one of three people credited with founding Bozeman, died in 1912. His grave at the old city cemetery behind Lindley Park has been unmarked.

On Aug. 9, however, the Gallatin County Historical Society plans to erect a tombstone at Rouse's as a Centennial event, complete with a ceremony, speeches and music.

A petrified tree stump with a bronze plaque will be erected with the legend, "Daniel Elliott Rouse, 1834-1912, Who With John M. Bozeman and William J. Beall Organized and Named the Town of Bozeman, August 9, 1864."

"I suppose times were tough and they didn't have money to buy the stone," said Helen Fechter, who discovered Rouse's unmarked grave while preparing a slide show on prominent Bozeman residents.

Rouse was the only city founder without a marked grave, Fechter said.

A native of Michigan, Rouse, homesteaded on the present site of Bozeman in the spring of 1864.

Rouse is credited by Bozeman historian Merrill Burlingame with building the first house in town on what became Main and Bozeman streets.

Coming from a family of Seventh-day Adventists, Daniel Rouse was labeled by historian as rebelling from the church and occasionally drinking and smoking.

There is little historical information as to why Rouse's grave was left without a marker.

"It's rather unusual because people were very concerned about marking those graves," Fechter said.

Burlingame said Wednesday he believes the grave may have been left unmarked because Rouse's children were grown and away from Bozeman in 1912.

but in local matters he maintains a somewhat independent attitude. Fraternaly he is identified with a number of the leading organizations in Helena, being popular in each and thoroughly appreciating and enjoying the society of his many warm friends. On April 16, 1900, Mr. Rossler was united in marriage to Mary Siebrecht, who was born in Munich, Bavaria, Germany, but has been a resident of Helena for many years.

DANL. E. ROUSE.—Everywhere and under all circumstances it is good and pleasant for brethren to dwell together in unity; and no more impressive or beautiful example of filial harmony and mutual helpfulness can be found in the state than that furnished by the Rouse brothers, of Bozeman, who have lived and worked together without a hitch or jar of any moment for the entire term of their maturity. The elder, Daniel E. Rouse, was born in Washtenaw county, Mich., September 30, 1834; the younger, Elisha A., in Cass county, in that state, February 1, 1845. They are sons of Daniel G. and Hannah (Aldord) Rouse, both natives of New York state, where the Rouse family lived for several generations, the paternal grandfather of the brothers, Anthony Rouse, having settled Rouse's Point on Lake Champlain, and given it the family name. He was a prominent man in his day and section, and rendered his country valiant service in the war of 1812. In 1831 the father settled in Washtenaw county, Mich., and later removed to Kalamazoo and built the Kalamazoo hotel, the first one built in the city. A few years after this he took up his residence in Cass county, where he remained until 1852, and went to California, leaving his family in Michigan. He never saw them again, dying in the mining regions of a fever contracted there.

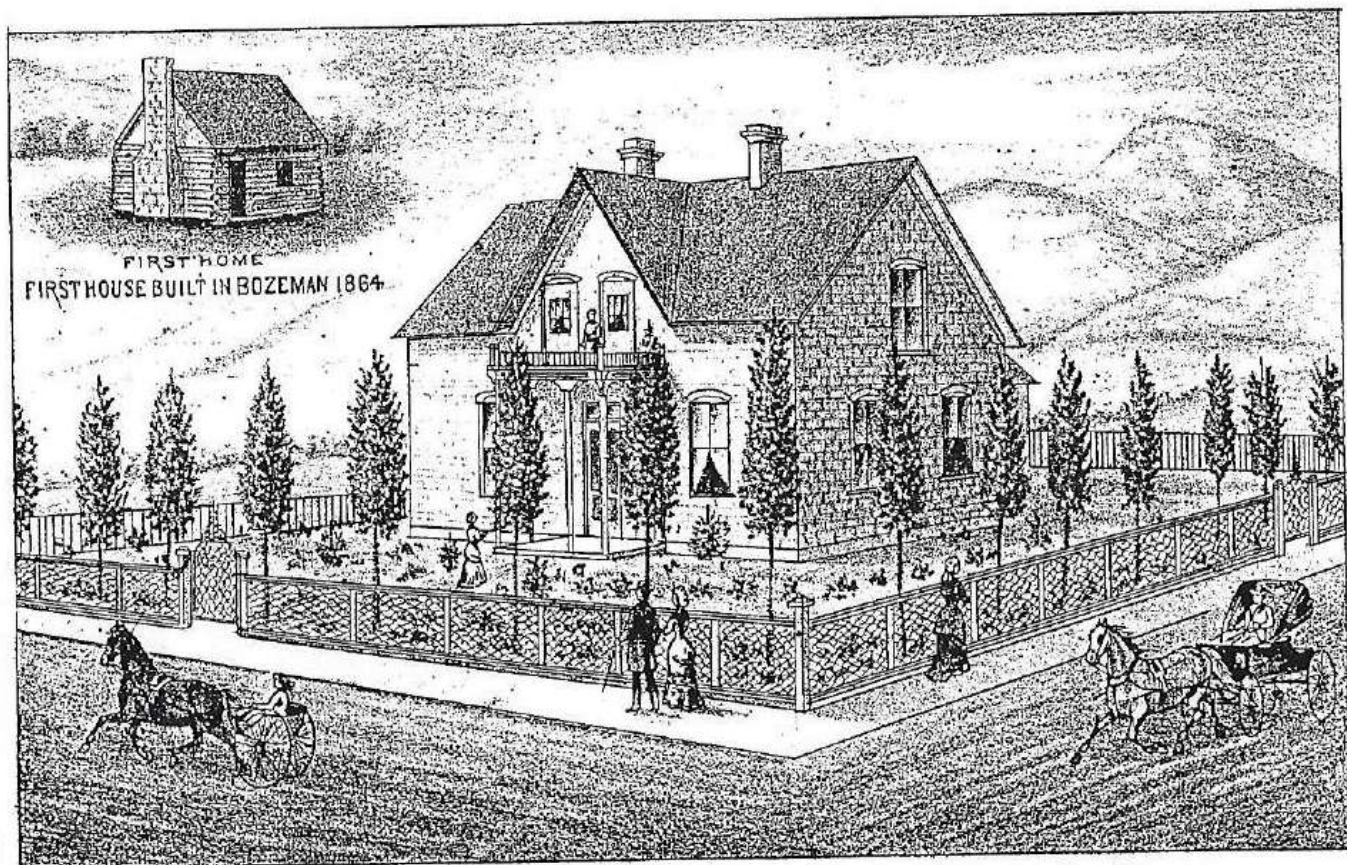
About the time his father left for California, Daniel started to Minnesota, and after a few years was joined there by the rest of the family. They remained for a short time and then removed to Franklin county, Iowa; two years later to Sioux county in the same state. In 1861 the brothers started across the plains for California, making the trip overland with oxen as far as Red Butte station on the North Platte, where they stopped and allowed the train to proceed without them. They remained there for a year, haying during the season and doing other work at times. In July, 1862,

they started for Bitter Root valley with a cayuse team, which they traded at the first convenient opportunity for oxen. They made the trip without trouble by way of Lander's cutoff and on to Rattlesnake, finally locating in Pike's Peak gulch near Deer Lodge, where they engaged in mining, but without success. They next went to near Missoula and put in forty acres of fall wheat on rented property. Here Elisha remained and worked the land and Daniel made a trip to Bannack, from there to Gallatin City, and in company with others laid out the town and built some thirty houses. There his brother joined him and together they went to Three Forks, where they farmed one season, and in the fall made a journey to Salt Lake City for seed and other supplies, returning and locating in the Gallatin valley in January, 1864. Here they took up property on Reese creek which they cultivated for a time. In July, 1864, Daniel took up the land on which the city of Bozeman now stands, he being the first to locate there. He laid out a town site, had four blocks surveyed, and erected the first building within the present city limits. The site is the one now occupied by the Wilson Company, on Main street. Since that time he has made his home in Bozeman, and has seen the city rise around him almost like an exhalation from the ground. After raising two crops on Reese creek, his brother joined him at Bozeman, and lived there two years or more. In 1866 he took up the ranch on which he now lives. It consists of 160 acres, located about five miles southeast of Bozeman, is highly improved with good buildings, fences; all under irrigation, and produces large crops of excellent hay, oats and other grains. Daniel owns considerable valuable property in Bozeman, and has been in business there at different times. Among the incidents of his life which have impressed him deeply was the burial of the remains of Col. Bozeman, who went from the city which bears his name to the place of his tragic and untimely death. Mr. Rouse was one of the party who recovered the body and gave it decent interment.

Daniel Rouse has been married twice. The first wife was Miss Melissa Ingraham Wallace, of Michigan, whom he married in 1855. By this union three children were born: Wallace, Ida and Edward. His second marriage was to Miss Susan Hitchcock, also of Michigan. It was solemnized in 1871, and Mrs. Rouse lived happily with him until she died in 1899. Elisha was married December 26, 1875, to Miss Chastina Randell, a

PROGRESSIVE ME.

native of Michigan. They have ten children, namely: Charles, Nelson Lee, Claude D., Guy, Lettie Pearl, Mattie Helen May, Rubie, Elsie, Abbie and Sadie. The third son, Claud, has developed quite an inventive genius which he has turned to good account in the invention of a patent gate which is opened by the wagon, and seems to be superior to anything of the kind on the market. The communion of interest, of labor, and of enjoyment, and the harmonious companionship which have characterized these brothers from their early life continues, and will continue to the end. Their tastes and habits have been molded together; they are the same in excellence of character, good citizenship and social qualities; and they enjoy in an equal degree the confidence and esteem of their fellows.



RESIDENCE OF D. E. ROUSE BOZEMAN GALLATIN, CO. MONT.

90.2030 RESIDENCES ^{erial (BOZEMAN)}
P1466N Residence of D. E. Rouse, Bozeman.
Etching.
From Leeson: History of Montana, 1885

notebook

RESIDENCES (BOZEMAN)



In 1861, Daniel E. Rouse moved from Minnesota to what would become Montana. He joined John Bozeman and WJ. Beall three years later in laying out the original townsite of Bozeman. At that time, his own residence was a simple log cabin. Rouse's Additions were among the first extensions of the town and, in the second of these, Rouse reserved a large corner lot for his own family home. It was constructed in 1881, during the building boom initiated by the arrival of the Northern Pacific Railroad. At that time, Bozeman residents favored brick as a building material of permanence, and so it was in scarce supply. But Daniel Rouse owned a brick yard. Architecturally, the house is an excellent example of the I-House building type that is common in Bozeman, and is notable for the stone springers and keystones that ornament the segmental arches of all its windows and doors.

ROUSE HOUSE, 506 East Babcock, Bozeman, MT
Built in 1881 by and for Daniel E. Rouse. It is presently
owned and used as a Law Office by Attorney Larry Jent.



THE ROUSE BROTHERS, BOZEMAN'S PIONEERS

There is no heroic poem in the world but is at the bottom the life of a man.
--Sir Walter Scott

Daniel Elliot Rouse and his younger brother Elisha A. were among the earliest settlers in the Gallatin Valley. Daniel is credited with building the first house, a log cabin, in Bozeman in July 1864. At the request of John Bozeman, the elder Rouse and his friend and fellow rancher, William J. Beall, located claims for themselves and Bozeman in the heart of the present downtown area. Rouse built a log cabin on Bozeman's claim on the south side of Main Street, east of Bozeman Avenue, while Beall put up a cabin north of Main and west of Bozeman Avenue. Elisha settled near Bear Creek east of town.

The Rouse brothers were born in Michigan, the sons of Daniel G. and Hannah Aldord Rouse, who were natives of New York. (See chart.) After several moves, Daniel G. left his family in 1852 to head for the gold fields of California, where he died. Daniel E. with three brothers and a sister moved on to Minnesota and later to Iowa. During this period D. E. had married and fathered three children, leaving them in the spring of 1861 to join a wagon train headed west. Young Elisha, only 15, agreed to accompany his brother.

The two were very different in disposition and temperament; Daniel was a persuasive operator and wheeler-dealer, who tended to run with a "fast" crowd. Elisha was retiring, preferring to work with horses and animals than with people. D. E. had engaged in several land deals in Minnesota and Iowa before heading west and, competent with tools and equipment, he had carpentered and milled along the way. Whereas Daniel believed in reason (he was an avid reader of T. Paine), Elisha was religious and studied the Bible, questioning its edicts all his life.

Staying with the wagon train as far as North Platte, Nebraska, the Rouses hired out with some local farmers. Undecided about a future in mining, Elisha opted to go on to Fort Laramie at the end of the harvest season where he worked for a time handling horses for the Overland Stage. Daniel freighted out of Denver. In July 1862 they both started for the gold fields in Idaho Territory. They planted wheat on a rented 40 acres in the Bitter Root Valley and D. E. went to Bannack to size up the prospects for freighting supplies to the camps. Here he became acquainted with John Bozeman, Henry Plummer, and William J. Beall. Elisha joined him after harvest, worked for Plummer's livery stable, and bullwhacked goods from Salt Lake City to Bannack.

D. E. resumed farming with William Beall as a partner in the Three Forks area and Elisha hauled the seed from Salt Lake for the produce, such as potatoes, which, after harvest, they in turn sold back to the miners. The gold strike in Alder Gulch in 1863 and the rapid growth of Virginia City in the newly formed Montana Territory lent import to their freighting and farming operations. It also hastened the settlement of Gallatin Valley. The restless Daniel had moved on up the way from Three Forks to Reese Creek where he and Beall took up a claim. Meanwhile Jim Bridger, John Jacobs, and John Bozeman were guiding three emigrant wagon trains from Fort Laramie over the Bozeman Trail to Virginia City. Bozeman envision-

ed a town on the upper East Gallatin and had commissioned Rouse and Beall to locate claims on the proposed townsite, which they did as described earlier. When the wagon trains arrived the persuasive Rouse and the eloquent Bozeman charmed many of the emigrants into staying. They offered free lots for business and choice corner lots for homes. Soon a flour mill was built, a general merchandise store established, and a school opened. Bozeman was chosen as the town's name.

Elisha and a soldier friend, Billy Lee, built their cabins near Bear Creek and dug irrigation ditches to water their farms. They and other farmers were constantly plundered by the Crow Indians and the Sioux, even threatened lives. The Bozeman Trail was the ancient Indian route to the Upper Columbia Basin and the Indians resented the white man using it, to say nothing of building a town on it! The Government built forts along the trail to protect the emigrants, including Fort Ellis situated on the east end of town near Elisha's claim. When Fort Ellis was activated by the troubled times, Elisha and Billy Lee gave up their farms to the fort "for the duration." Bozeman Pass was closed and Elisha went to live with his brother in town. He returned to freighting and in 1871 Daniel left for Michigan to escort his two sons to Montana.

Daniel's first wife, Melissa C. Ingraham, had divorced him and he had married Susan E. Hitchcock, who was also from Michigan. His sister Helen Randall and her family also accompanied D. E. and his sons to Montana, going by way of the Union Pacific to Corinne, Utah, and overland by stage to Bozeman. In 1873 Elisha and an Army Scout were sent to carry a dispatch to a company maneuvering east of Bozeman Pass. Elisha was captured by the Sioux and held prisoner. He managed to escape after being held for six months. He stumbled into one of Story's cattle camps on the Yellowstone where his brother Daniel came to get him and take him home.

In 1875 Elisha and D. E. built a house in Bozeman which they shared. On 26 December 1875 Elisha married Chastina Randall. He continued to freight for the Army, acting as wagon master for Major Brisbin's supply train from Fort Ellis to Fort Pease near Pompey's Pillar--an extremely dangerous job as the Sioux were harassing Fort Pease. After the devastating battle of the Big Horn the Indians retreated to Canada and the settlement of Bozeman prospered. In 1883 the Northern Pacific Railroad came through and Fort Ellis closed, permitting Elisha and Billy Lee to move back to their original farms.

Elisha and Chastina raised ten children to adulthood. One son, Oren, died at 18 months. Near his homestead a Seventh Day Adventist family had settled and Elisha's wife, always interested in religion, became a convert to the faith after a series of meetings held in the Fort Ellis school by the sect. In 1904 there were enough Adventist families in the area to found a church and the following year they moved their school to the church, enlarging it to ten grades. As the school grew the church looked for larger quarters to build a boarding school and Elisha offered them

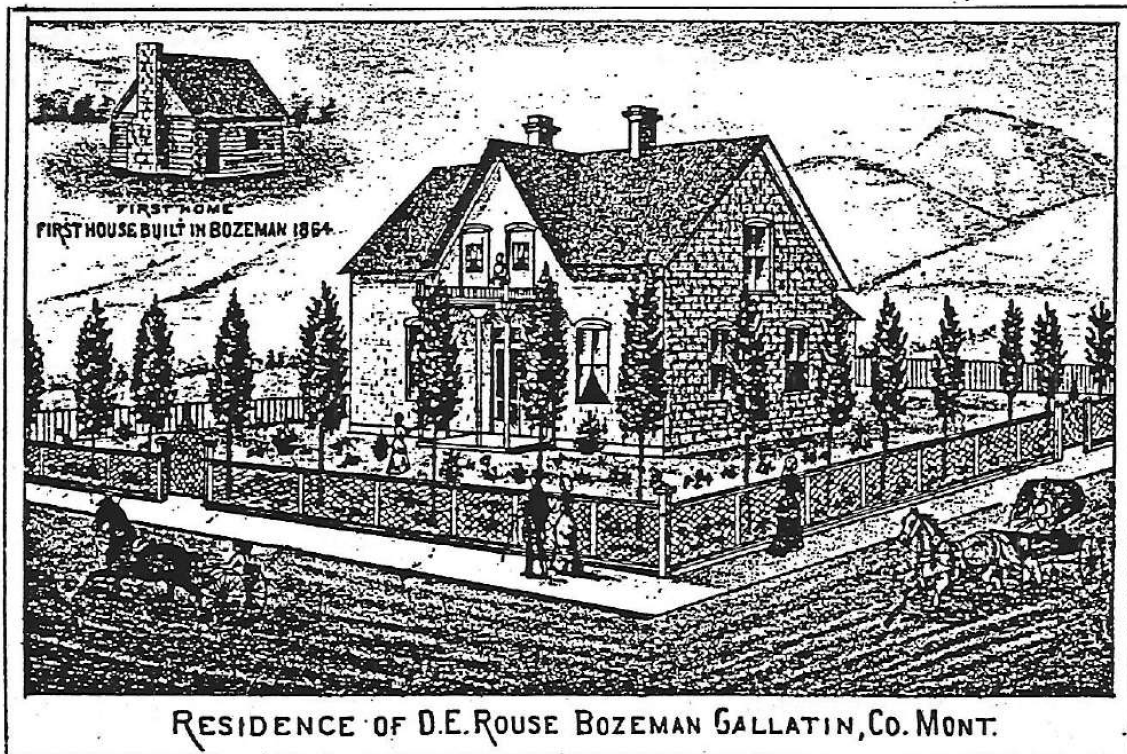
10 acres at half value. So Mount Ellis Academy was born.

In 1915 Elisha was baptized in the Adventist Church. He had been a bullwhacker, farmer, scout, Indian fighter, policeman, and livery stableman. In 1922, aging and now quite deaf, he left his home one evening to walk to Bozeman. Returning home he waited for a freight train to pass, then stepped in front of an oncoming engine on the other track. His wife died in 1927 and they share a common headstone in Sunset Hills Cemetery. Also buried in the plot are Helen Randall and Susan Hitchcock Rouse, who died in 1898. No stone remains for Daniel Elliot, the elder Rouse brother who had done so much to develop Bozeman. After his wife's death he had moved in with Elisha, selling his brick home at 506 East Babcock. In 1912 Daniel died of a heart attack and was buried in Sunset Hills beside his wife and sister. Although his stone is gone, his Carpenter Gothic brick home and the streets of Bozeman which bear the names of his family, Wallace, Ida, and Rouse, remain as memorials to his pioneering spirit.

*Come, said the wind to
the leaves one day,
Come o'er the meadows
and we will play.
Put on your dresses
of scarlet and gold,
For summer is gone
and the days grow cold.
Children's song, circa 1886*

I wish to acknowledge the help of Inez Hecox in writing this article. She introduced me to the book MONTANA BULLWHACKER by C. C. Rouse, published in 1969, which gave me the inspiration to pursue this study of the Rouse brothers.

Lisa M. Gray, 1986



Constructed in 1881, this house is a brick version of the "Gothic Cottage" of the Carpenter Gothic tradition. (Leeson, History of Montana, 1885.)

NOTES TAKEN FROM C. C. ROUSE, MONTANA BULLWHACKER

In 1861, the Rouse brothers left Franklin County, Iowa to cross the plains with the gold mines of California in view. At the Red Buttes on the North Platte, for undetermined reasons, they dropped out of the train and "hired out" on ranches in the area for a year.

In July, 1862 they decided to continue their journey, but to go to Oregon and take up homesteads rather than to go to the California mines. On the Oregon trail they heard stories of the rich mines in "Idaho," Montana was not admitted as a state until December 8, 1889.

In "Idaho" they were attracted to the newly discovered ~~mines~~ gold mines in Pikes' Peak Gulch near Deer Lodge.

They did not succeed in mining and went to the lower Bitterroot Valley near Missoula, where Elisha planted a crop and remained with it, while Daniel traveled over the area seeking the "right spot" to settle. After a time in Bannack, looking at mining again, they came to ~~Gallatin City~~ to the headwaters of the Missouri near the present town of Three Forks.

The father of the brothers had successfully promoted a townsite, "Rouse Point" on Lake Champlain when they were very young. This ~~may~~ was no doubt the origin of Daniel's obsession in laying out townsites - at Red Wing, Minnesota, Gallatin City, Bozeman, and Rouse's Point on the Yellowstone River.

ROUSE BROTHERS. Alderson Diary, Friday, April 7, 1865 and footnotes.

Friday, April 7, 1865. "John and I started down valley with the Burtsch family. I took sleigh as far as Rouse Rancho. Got wagon there and went on. Stayed all night."

Footnotes. 37. Daniel F. and Elisha A. Rouse, brothers, took an active part in the development of Bozeman. Born in Michigan, Daniel on September 30, 1834, and Elisha on February 1, 1845, moved with their family to Minnesota, and then to Iowa. The brothers started for California by wagon in 1861, but on the upper North Platte River, they decided to seek land in the northwest. They arrived in the Deer Lodge Valley in 1862 where they mined briefly, then they went to farm in the Missoula Valley. They were attracted to the Bannack and Virginia City mining camps, where Elisha began freighting to Salt Lake City. They came to Gallatin City with John Bozeman and William Beall in 1863, and also took up a claim in the Reece Creek community, and it was at the ranch there that the ~~xxxxxx~~ Aldersons stopped on April 7.

Daniel worked closely in developing Bozeman, and developed the claim south of Main Street and east of Bozeman Street. He first built, reportedly the first cabin in the Bozeman town site, on the southeast corner of Main Street and Bozeman Street. Eventually - reportedly about 1875 he built a ~~xxxxxxxx~~ a large and distinctive brick house on the southeast corner of Rouse and Babcock. Elisha took up a homestead on what became the Fort Ellis fort reserve, and he had to move without compensation. Here he build a large log house which housed his own large family, and the smaller family of Daniel. He later took up a homestead near the mouth of Bear Canyon, which later became the site of the Seventh Day Adventist Academy.



Susan E. Rouse.

BOZEMAN.

Susan Eliza *Hitchcock* Rouse

Birth: Aug. 1, 1830
Niagara County
New York, USA
Death: 1898
Bozeman
Gallatin County
Montana, USA

Susan was the daughter of:
John & Ann Eliza (ROUSE) Hitchcock.

She was the 2nd wife of Daniel Elliot Rouse
Married July 5th 1870
in Chelsea, Lima Township, Washtenaw
County, Michigan.

No issue from this marriage.

Family links:

Spouse:
Daniel Elliott Rouse (1834 - 1912)*

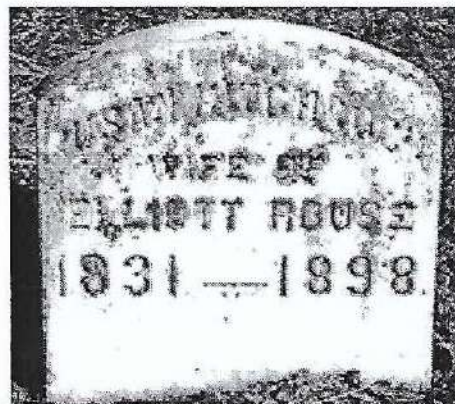
*Calculated relationship

Burial:
Sunset Hills Cemetery
Bozeman
Gallatin County
Montana, USA
Plot: Old Block D, Lot 103

Created by: Butterfly~Kisses
Record added: Apr 28, 2010
Find A Grave Memorial# 51752653



Added by: Pam Leary Wilson



Added by: Jane Berkell