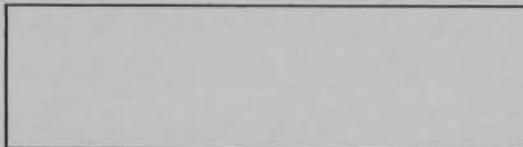


BRIGHTON AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
P.O. Box 481  
Brighton, MI 48116-0481

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Permit #303  
Brighton, MI

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



### EARLY VERMONTERS, THE VANDERLIP FAMILY ARRIVES IN GREEN OAK TOWNSHIP

Although, not with the wave of settlers from the eastern United States to Michigan in the 1830s, the Truman C. Vanderlip (b. 1812) family came from Vermont in 1867.

Truman's first wife, Mrs. Becker, had three children when they married: Edwin H. (b. 1839), and two daughters, one of whom married a Blakely and the other a Sibley. Edwin H. married Martha Bebee April 30, 1862. Their son Edward D. was born 1863 in New York and daughter Elizabeth was born in Michigan in 1869. She married William Standlick, September 14, 1881

After his first wife's death, Truman married Olive M. about 1840 to whom six children were born. Two died at a young age. Two of her sons, John, who lived in Oregon and died in Colorado February, 1905, and Harrison, who lived in Iowa at the time of his father's death in Detroit in 1900, possibly did not come to Michigan at that time with Truman, Sr. In 1852, twins, Truman C. Jr. and Caroline were born; they were 15 at the time of the move to Michigan. The younger T.C. was usually referred to as the Colonel during adulthood.

The family settled on a farm at the south end of Island Lake in Green Oak Township: Section 4, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ -NE $\frac{1}{4}$ , W $\frac{1}{2}$ -SE  $\frac{1}{4}$  and NE $\frac{1}{4}$  - SW $\frac{1}{4}$ . On November 27, 1867, a total of 160 acres was recorded. A two-story Greek Revival home with a single-story wing on each side was built. Within five years the Detroit, Lansing and Northern Railroad to Brighton from points south was constructed just north of the house. The 1870 census indicates Truman, Sr., was a prosperous farmer whose holdings were valued at \$10,000.

The Col. married fellow Green Oak resident Isabelle Peach in 1878. A daughter, Elba, was born January 21, 1880, and in 1898 she was elected president of the Brighton High School senior class. Not long after she married Dr. W. K. Wood, who practiced in Virginia. Dr. Wood died December 10, 1907, leaving Elba with a young son.

On July 12, 1882, the Brighton Argus reported, "Officers of the State Militia were here and completed arrangements with Mr. Vanderlip for the State Militia encampment at Island Lake." This news engendered a great deal of optimism for the local economy. "This town, it must be said, went nearly wild with excitement." This first encampment was called Camp Jerome.

Around 1910, Isabella's health deteriorated. She moved to California to live with daughter Elba. July 7, 1921, she died in Los Angeles. Around 1911, the Col. and Isabella's relationship appears to have come to a parting. He relocated and purchased property near Rygate, Montana, and remarried. His second wife died c. 1921. He was wintering with daughter Elba in Los Angeles in 1924, when he was injured in an auto accident and died two hours later, January 11. It is surmised both the Col. and Isabelle are interred in a Los Angeles cemetery. They'd crossed the continent during their lifetime.

Caroline Vanderlip stayed in the area, married a Corrigan, and lived until 1944.

(Compiled by Marieanne Bair from census records; and obituaries and cemetery transcriptions prepared by Milton Charboneau. Additions/corrections 810/229-6402.)