

## **Echo Street Names:**



**Bonanza Street:** This street is in the first Echo City Plat 1880. The source of the name is unknown, but a Bonanza is usually defined as “sudden and unexpected, of luck or wealth.” So we can speculate that it might have been named for the discovery of gold in the Blue Mountains. Koontz came to Umatilla County from Portland in 1863 where he operated a general store and had a freight line that took goods to miners in the John Day and Boise Basin areas. Steamships would bring goods up the Columbia for the miners and download them at Umatilla Landing. Men like Koontz made their fortunes supplying the miners. Another possibility is that he considered acquiring the land at Echo to be a bonanza as the railroad was passing through the valley, making the land worth more because of its location than as farm land.

Brassfield was already in Echo. The ferry across the river and post that served the pioneers passing through on the Oregon Trail and later County Road #1 was first called Brassfield’s Ferry. Thomas Brassfield (WD’s uncle) wrote in his Biography that he came tran a roadhouse or station there and operated the ferry for five years. John Bradburn received a license from Umatilla County to operate the ferry here in 1867, which is probably when Thomas sold the operation to Bradburn. WD Brassfield was shown as 23 on the 1880 Census. He was the son of WW Brassfield and Elizabeth Partin.

**Bridge Street:** The first county bridge was proposed to be on Bridge Street, but was shifted north to Main Street. In fact the current bridge location is close to the original bridge site. This Street name is in the first 1880 Echo City Plat.

**Buckley Street:** This street was probably named for James M. Buckley. Buckley was the Superintendent and assistant manager of the OR&N from 1881-1883. This name shows up in the Brassfield Addition from 1881.

Bridge St. c.  
1910 parade



**College Street:** College Street is along the south side of the original school grounds and is believed to have been named because it was next to the school. This name shows up on the Whitworth Addition filed on Dec. 13, 1882.

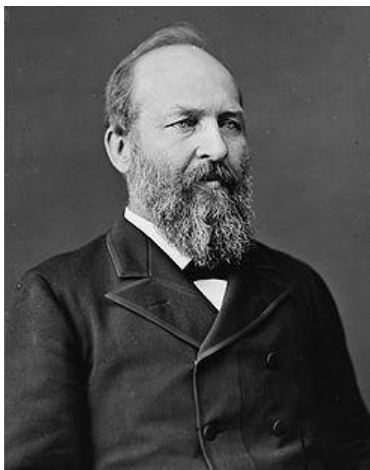
**Cottage Lane:** This is a private drive which the city allowed Frank Nelson to name in the 1990s when an address was assigned to his home as it was being constructed.

**Dale Street:** This street is named in the original Echo City Plat form 1880.

**Dupont Street**—named by JH Koontz and W.D. Brassfield in the first plat, Echo City, in 1880. Koontz' House fronts onto Dupont Street, but the house was not in the first Echo plat but in the 1882 Koontz Addition. We do not believe that Dupont Street was named for the DuPont Corporation. While DuPont was established in 1802 and by the mid 19<sup>th</sup> Century was the major supplier of gun powder for the US military, its great success and prominence was post 1902 when it began manufacturing dynamite

**Esteb Street:** Esteb Street is named for Lemuel "L.A. Esteb (July 14, 1853-1916) He was first mayor of Echo, 1904-1907, a lawyer and businessman. He owned the property from Esteb Street south to the city limits at one time. He was born in Indiana and attended Columbia College in Missouri. He was admitted to the bar in 1872. In 1880 he moved to Montana and bought 1/3 ownership in a mining company that when it sold grossed one million dollars. He came to Echo, presumably a well-to-do man in 1903 when there were only 46 residents according to a special edition of the "Echo Register" of 1907. He bought lots for \$100 each that sold for \$1000 in 1907. The Esteb house remains at the south end of the city limits on Kennedy Street. The street first appeared in the Halstead's Addition to the City of Echo.

**Front Street/First Street:** This street name appears on the first Echo City plat form 1880 filed by James Koontz and W.D. Brassfield. It is interesting that neither Koontz or Brassfield ever named a street after themselves although Koontz was involved in filing three plats (Echo City, Koontz Addition and Koontz' 2<sup>nd</sup> Addition) and Brassfield in two (Echo City and Brassfield Addition)



**Garden Street**—Source of Name Unknown this street name appears in Koontz Addition filed Nov. 11, 1882. Was there a garden ? or flowers in these area?

**Garfield Street:** James Abram Garfield (November 19, 1831 – September 19, 1881) was the 20th President of the United States. He was assassinated after only 200 days in office. Garfield served as a major general in the United

States Army and was a member of the U.S. House of Representatives. He was the second U.S. President to be assassinated.

**Gerone St.** This street name first appears on the Gulliford's Addition filed by Jerome and Kate Gulliford in 1904. This street name has been misspelled as Gerome Street and Jerome Street, but is clearly shown as Gerone on this plat, while Jerome Gulliford signs his name as Jerome, so it is not named for him.

**Golf Course Road:** Access road to the Echo Hills Golf Course.

**Halstead Street:** This street is named for Joel Halstead, Sr. one of the first settlers to locate within the Echo city limits. Halstead was born in New York and according to the 1870 Census was living in Granite, Grant County where he was mining. By 1873 he was believed to have relocated to Echo. A 1906 promotional publication of the



Echo Register states that Halstead built the first home in Echo, which was a log cabin that was still standing on his property in 1906. It was a one room cabin 12 by 14 feet. He then built a 5 room home and finally another home which remains standing on Halstead Street today. However the home has been added to and modernized. A small board and batten cabin on the property may have been one of the first homes in Echo that is still standing according to life-long Echo resident Homer Bowman in the late 1970s.

**Hiestand Street.** Hiestand Street is named for Noah W. Hiestand. Hiestand, operated Hiestand & Loveridge General Store in the 1880s in partnership with Newton Loveridge. Hiestand Street is named for him. His wife was Jessie May Bean. A Umatilla County marriage license was issued on June 4, 1881 for their marriage. Jessie may have been the daughter of Pendleton merchant John Bean. Hiestand was born in Ohio in 1857. The family had moved on to California by 1900 according to the Alameda, CA Census. Hiestand died in Las Angeles, CA in 1943.

**Jane Street:** Jane Street is named on the 1882 Whitworth's Addition. We don't know the source of the name, but Wilson Whitworth's wife was named Martha Jane.

**Kennedy Street:** W.H. Kennedy as the Chief Engineer of the OR&N in 1887. This name appears on the Koontz Plat in 1882.

**Perry Street:** Perry Street may have been named for Perry Whitworth as this street is in an area owned and platted by the Whitworth's. Perry's father Wilson W. Whitworth donated the land for the Echo Public School and was one of the first settlers in the Echo area. He owned the farm where the Dr. Pierce's painted barn is

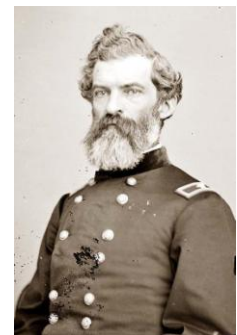
located and lived in the home that is still located there. Wilson Whitworth operated the Twelve Mile House near Stanfield in the 1870s, which was the heyday of the freight roads through the area. According to his biography, *“When Mr. Whitworth first settled in Umatilla County, Umatilla was the nearest market by freight outfits and the only one in the county. Umatilla at the time was Umatilla Landing. The twenty-five cent piece was the smallest coin in circulation in the county then and most everything was paid for in gold dust. The country was wild and rough and in 1878, a company of men formed to defend the settlers from Indian attacks, during the Bannock War of 1878, as well as assault by other desperate characters. Mr. Whitworth was among the first to offer his services in this company...”*

Perry Whitworth’s niece Elza Kenison was murdered by farm hand Grover Stoffel in the house in 1908. This story called “Tragedy in the Morning” is featured in Bennie Tolar’s book Echoes from the Past and The Echo Story Part II.

Another potential source of the name is that it was named for DeWitt C. Perry, who in 1888 was a trainmaster and assistant superintendent for Union Pacific in Oregon and Utah.

**Prescott:** This street is named for Charles H. Prescott (b. 1839), manager of the Oregon Railroad and Navigation Co. from 1881-1887. He was also a vice president of the Northern Pacific and comptroller of the OR & N Co. This street name appears on the Koontz Addition filed in 1882.

**Sprague Street:** John W. Sprague was the General superintendent and general agent of the Northern Pacific Railroad for Pacific Coast, 1870-1883. He was born on April 4, 1817 and died December 27, 1894. He served as a general in the Union Army in the during the American Civil War. He was awarded the Medal of Honor for gallantry at the Battle of Decatur during the Atlanta Campaign. After the war, he was a railroad executive and later co-founded the city of Tacoma, Washington, serving as its first mayor. This street name also first appears on the Koontz Addition from 1882



**Smith Drive:** The Club Addition was platted by Frank G. and Loleta Smith with Smith Drive and an undeveloped road right-of-way called Club Drive shown as the only streets. This plat was filed in 1951.

**Thielsen Street:** This street is often misspelled on some maps. It is named for Hans Thielsen a railroad engineer with the Oregon Railway and Navigation Company and he spelled it with an “e”. It appears in the 1882 Koontz Addition. Thielsen Mountain near Eugene is also named for him. The following comes from a biography posted by his great



granddaughter Jane Thielsen: “Born June 11, 1814--April 25, 1896. Civil engineer, railroad builder, banker was born at Flensburg, Denmark, [now N.Germany] died in Portland, Oregon, the son of Hans Jens Bune and Anna Katherine Hansen Thielsen. He was educated in the school and university at Flensburg, and specialized in mathematics in preparation for a career as civil engineer [though another source sites his predecessors as seamen and farmers].

In 1837 he came to America, constructed the Michigan Central and the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy railroads, 1837-1867. He met Ben Holladay (qv) in Omaha in 1869, who engaged his services to develop his Oregon railroads. He began work in 1870, and continued with Henry Villard (qv) when Holliday went broke building the Oregon & California R.R..

He soon proved a highly efficient engineer, particularly on mountain grades and his good work gave him a lasting place in Oregon history. Named for him is Mount Thielsen (alt.9,173') in the high Cascades.

After fifty years in railroad construction work, he retired to less strenuous occupations and established a home in Portland, where he was active in financial and industrial life. He was married in 1844 to Ellen Westren [from Barnstable, England] at Jackson, Michigan; they had three sons. (MOGN, 350; HHO, 653.) from Dictionary of Oregon History, ed. H.M. Corning. 1956. Binford and Mort Publishers, Portland, Oregon.”

**Water Street:** This name is on the original city plat in 1880 and is the closest street to the Umatilla River.

**Willow Street:** This street name appears on the Koontz Addition in 1882 and is probably named for the Willow Trees that tend to grow wherever there is a little moisture.