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The Fare Facs Gazette

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Spring 2005

Mary Ludema Sayre First Postmistress of Fairfax

by William Page Johnson, II

Mary Ludema Sayre, the first Postmistress of Fairfax, was a native of Iowa who was raised in California; a graduate of UCLA; an accomplished musician (clarinet, flute and cello); an officer in the Y.W.C.A., Girl Scouts of America, and Campfire Girls; helped organize the Travelers Aid Society of Washington, DC and Los Angeles, CA; a Republican; an officer in the Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce and Fairfax County Grange; President of the Fairfax PTA; and, a convicted felon!



Source: Los Angeles Times, August 4, 1912, p. 113.

Mary Ludema Sayre was born in Eldora, Hardin County, Iowa on June 7, 1874, the daughter of Linus N. and Mary Jane (Race) Sayre.¹ Her father was a contractor and mother was a homemaker. The family attended the First Congregationalist Church of Eldora and later Los Angeles, California.² The Sayre's moved to Los Angeles in the 1880's. Ludema and her siblings, Linus, Robert, Annesly, and Lillian, all attended public school in Los Angeles.³ Ludema and her sister Annesly, also attended the Los Angeles Normal School, now the University of California at Los Angeles (UCLA). The L.A. Normal School was then a teachers college. Ludema received her teacher's degree in 1893.⁴

A friend of Ludema's, Lou Henry, another native of Iowa, also enrolled in the L.A. Normal School. Both women had a great love of the outdoors and enjoyed camping, hiking and fishing. Lou transferred to the San Jose Normal School, now San Jose State University, where she received her teaching degree in 1892. She then enrolled in Stanford University in 1894 where she became the first woman to graduate with a degree in Geology. While at Stanford she also met and married Herbert Clark Hoover, the future President of the United States. The friendship established between Ludema Sayre and Lou Henry Hoover would endure for the next forty years.⁵

After graduating from college, Ludema taught public school in Los Angeles for the next thirteen years. She began teaching grades 5, 6, 7 & 8 at the Green Meadows School in the fall of 1893. In October 1894, she wrote on the back of a postcard to her friend Lou Henry:

Fairfax, Virginia, April 2005-

Message from the President:

Greetings from the President--

Our editor, Page Johnson, has chosen, as this issue's feature history story Miss Ludema Sayre, The First Postmistress of Fairfax and some postal history as well. Today, we take our postal service for granted but as you read this story, you will see it was a little more difficult when it first began, however, much more personal.

Spring is here and with it brings us very busy as we are at the countdown for our big event – The Homes Tour! I hope you have seen the advertisements all over town and have visited the Museum and purchased your tickets as well as tickets for the wonderful raffle prizes. Tickets can also be purchased at each home so that you can visit as many homes as you wish. Dr. Martin, Historic Resources Director and Susan Gray, Curator, are busy finishing up the “Housing Suburbia” exhibit, which will have its grand opening on April 30th - the day of the Tour. This exhibit will be an informative guide to the architecture of the homes you will see and show you how our City grew from Main Street to this bustling suburb.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our Co-Chairs Carol Cope and Karen Stevenson for their hard work in pulling the Tour all together and to all the volunteers on the committee that made this happen. Thank you to the brave homeowners, Gary and Pat Bottorff, John and Ann Keith, John and Jeannette Mason, Keith and Melinda Ardinger, Dirk and Ellen Brouwer and Teresa Peduzzi. Thank you to all the docents, the garden clubs, City staff and all our wonderful advertisers that contributed financially, and to the raffle sponsors. Without all this support, sponsoring this event could not be possible. Now all we have to hope for is a beautiful day! Come on out and see these wonderful homes, enjoy the exhibit, and meeting the people that make this happen.

Our next event will be our General Meeting on May 18th at Old Town Hall. The program this year will follow our City's bicentennial theme to learn more

about history in Fairfax City 200 years ago. Come and join us for this informative program.

Our Board has lost a valuable member, Kevin Frank. Kevin has recently become a Father and with his growing business found that there just wasn't time enough for everything. We will miss him but he promises to continue to be active with HFCI projects. That leaves an opening on the Board and I welcome any of you that would like to learn more about our Board and help us achieve our goals of “preserving history in the City” to call Ellen Wigren, our Nominating Chair for information. Other projects we are working on are updating our website, the 4th of July parade, and the Blenheim project.

Our Outreach, Fundraising Committee is gearing up to reactivate the Capital Campaign project by raising money through your participation in purchasing bricks, a garden, benches, planters to commemorate you, your family and your ancestors. With the redevelopment of the City's downtown, there will be many areas where you can designate a special spot to be remembered throughout history. For more information call Bill Jayne at 703.352.1534. Our Outreach speakers are always ready and able to come out to speak to your organization or group. We are happy to be able to tell you more about what HFCI does to preserve the history in our City. Call Ann Adams, Outreach Chair at 703.273.6911.

Thank you all for responding to my membership letter by sending in your membership dues for 2005. We had a wonderful response – how about you? Have you sent in your dues yet? If you have misplaced your letter, a form is included in this newsletter. Share your newsletter with a friend or a neighbor and invite them to join. We appreciate your financial help to assist with the work of preservation in the City of Fairfax.

I always look forward to meeting you and please call or e-mail me if you have any suggestions or ideas to make our organization a better one. My phone # is 703 591 5305 and e-mail is hilcarn31@aol.com.

Hildie Carney

Getting To Know You

HFCI Board Member Michael D. "Mick" Frasier



Mick is just beginning his second term on the HFCI Board. We were happy to hear that he was going to "reup" as he is a very active member of our Board. In addition to being our representative on the City of Fairfax Board of Architectural Review (BAR), he chairs the Investigative Historic Properties Committee. This is the committee that researches all the historic properties in the City making sure they are not lost to new development. He is also Chair of the 4th of July Float Committee and is a member of the Blenheim Committee. Mick has also been an active member on the Historic Homes Tour Committee as Chair of the Selection Committee. Thanks to him and his committee all three of our tours have had outstanding homes on the tour.

Mick has a dual interest in historical properties and their preservation because in his "real" job he is President of Fairfax Homes, Inc., a building/developer company that renovates historic homes. Currently he is working on historic townhouses in Washington, DC. His expertise in how to keep the charm of the old and make these homes functional is invaluable in his business as well as the advice he gives HFCI when historic homes in the City are being purchased.

Mick and his family moved to the City of Fairfax in 1995. He is married to Kulsoom Kazmi. They have two children attending Daniel's Run Elementary School. Soon after they moved to the City they both knew that they wanted to purchase an historic home; Mick because he wanted to use his skills to renovate it, and Kulsoom because of her talents as a designer, to furnish it. We were fortunate to have his home *Olde Post Farm* on the HFCI historic home tour in 2003 and it was one of the favorites. It's a work in progress – since the tour, Mick has built a beautiful addition to the home – being careful to keep the historic charm in tact.

Mick graduated from Ferris State University, Grand Rapids, MI. Mick grew up in Saginow Michigan.

Mick has always been an entrepreneur and started two national snack food companies. Both companies were sold to large national companies. When his interests changed to building/renovating they moved East.

Mick's dedication to preservation has made him a valuable member of the HFCI Board. We salute him for all his hard work and look forward to working with him for another three years!

Advertisements

Fishing Materials.

SEINE-TWINE, Sheet-Cork, white & Starr'd Rope, Salt, &c. may be had on very reasonable Terms, by applying to
JOHN MURRAY & CO.
 Alexandria, March 11, 1790.

Source: *Alexandria Gazette*, April 29, 1790, p. 1, c. 1.

Visit us on the web:
HFCI Website!

<http://www.historicfairfax.org>

FAIRFAX FAST FACT:

On the morning of August 4, 1853 the village of Fairfax Court House nearly burned to the ground. The law offices of William H. Dulany and William L. Edwards, the medical office of Dr. William Gunnell, the offices of the *Fairfax News*, and the dwelling of Mrs. Hunt were all completely destroyed. The cause was thought to be arson and the case was never solved.

Sayre... - continued from pg. 1

"This is a picture of my school house in Green Meadows. This is my second year there. May the word 'school house' bring to your memory our pleasant days of 'Auld Lang Syne.'" 6

Green Meadows, was then a suburb of Los Angeles located some 6 miles south of downtown. From 1896 to 1906, Ludema taught at the Vernon Avenue School in Los Angeles.⁷ At about the same time she began performing with a seven piece, all female orchestra, which went by the name "We Are Seven."⁸ Ludema played clarinet, flute and cello.^{9, 10, 11} The orchestra preformed at small social and charitable events in Los Angeles.¹² In addition, Ludema found time to enjoy her passion for the outdoors, camping and hiking in the local San Gabriel Mountains.^{13, 14}

In June 1904, Ludema attended the World's Fair in St. Louis, Missouri.¹⁵ In July, she traveled to Europe for a six-month tour, which included a stop at the Bavarian village of Oberammergau.¹⁶ Oberammergau is the site of two world famous attractions, "Mad" King Ludwig II's, Neuschwanstein: Linderhof Castle; and, a passion play depicting the crucifixion of Christ, and performed in the village since 1634. Ludema was sufficiently moved by this passion play to write an article about her experience in the Los Angeles Times titled, "*In Oberammergau – Days Spent by a Young Woman of Los Angeles in the Home of the Christus.*"¹⁷

In 1907, Ludema moved to Washington, DC to work for the Young Women's Christian Association (Y.W.C.A.) as the extension secretary of the newly formed Indoor-Outdoor Club. The membership of the Washington, DC Y.W.C.A. was composed of single young women who worked as government clerks, secretaries and teachers.

In May 1908, Ludema went to the White House to hear President Theodore Roosevelt address a group of Y.W.C.A. workers.¹⁸ This was the probable first of several visits Ludema would make to the White House over the next twenty years.

In 1909, Ludema became involved with the establishment of a vacation lodge in the wooded countryside of Arlington, Virginia. The lodge would be an inexpensive place for young single working women of Washington, DC to take a vacation. Dr. Joseph Tabor Johnson, the private physician of U.S. President Grover Cleveland, donated one acre of his farm at Cherrydale, Arlington County, Virginia for this purpose. Vacation Lodge opened in August of 1910. Inscribed on the fireplace in the living room was the motto of the lodge – the words of the Author and Naturalist John Burroughs:

"I come here to find myself; it is so easy to get lost in this world."¹⁹

Vacation Lodge operated each summer for thirty-eight years until it was demolished in 1949 by Arlington County to make way for Stratford Junior High School.²⁰

One of the most valuable services the Y.W.C.A. preformed in its early years was to assist young women traveling alone in large cities throughout the U.S. In Washington, DC the Y.W.C.A. set up a booth at Union Station for this purpose. However, by 1910, with the number of single female travelers seeking assistance increasing, Ludema Sayre and a number of other Y.W.C.A. leaders organized the Travelers Aid Society of Washington.²¹ Travelers Aid of Washington continues to operate today.

While in Washington, DC Ludema became friends with a young government secretary, seven years her senior, named Ann Pearson. By 1910, the two women had formed a unique bond and were living together on Euclid Street, near Howard University. Annie was the daughter of Joseph L. and Sarah Ann Pearson. Joseph Pearson and his sons, operated a printing business in Washington, DC. When her father died, Annie inherited a portion of his estate. When her brother Henry died in 1895, Annie contested his will and received a portion of his estate as well.²² She was also the sole beneficiary of her brother Joseph's estate in 1914, and was one of six heirs to her uncle Charles B. Pearson's \$200,000 estate in 1916.^{23, 24} The value of her Uncle's estate alone would equate to approximately \$3,400,000 in today's dollars. In short, by 1916, Annie Pearson was probably a very wealthy woman.

The two women shared a dream of one day moving out of the city to the country and onto a self-supporting farm. In November 1911, they began to make their dream a reality by purchasing a 150-acre farm on Pope's Head Road, Fairfax County, Virginia.²⁵ They named their new venture *Polly Ann Farm* in honor of their mothers – Mary Polly Sayre and Sarah Ann Pearson.²⁶ They did not move to their Fairfax farm right away, however. They leased the property, and began to plan their venture down to the smallest detail. Ludema continued to work for the Y.W.C.A. and assisted in raising funds to build a new Y.W.C.A. headquarters at 13th and I Street, N.W. in Washington, DC. In early 1912, she also assisted in organizing a troop of Girl Pioneers of America, in the Nations Capitol. The Girl Pioneers of America were a forerunner of the Girl Scouts of America. In February 1912, Ludema was among a delegation of women who presented her troop of girls to First Lady Helen Herron Taft, wife of President William Howard Taft, in the East Room of the White House.²⁷ In the coming months Ludema would assist Mrs. Taft with the organization of a troop of Campfire Girls in Washington, DC.²⁸

In the late spring of 1912, Ludema and Ann left Washington for Los Angeles to earn additional money for their *Polly Ann Farm* venture. Ludema went to work for the Y.W.C.A. in Los Angeles, while Ann took a position in a bank. In August 1912, Ludema held an organizational meeting for Campfire Girls at the Huntington Park Y.W.C.A.²⁹ Within several months there were over 100 girls in new organization.³⁰ In addition to the outdoor activities of the Y.W.C.A. and Campfire Girls Ludema also instructed the girls in practical matters such as savings and budgeting.³¹

In June 1914, Ludema took on the task of establishing a permanent Y.W.C.A. Summer Camp in the San Gabriel Mountains east of Los Angeles. Using her previous experience in establishing the Vacation Lodge in Virginia, the new Y.W.C.A. Summer Camp was established on government land along a branch of the San Antonio River just below Old Baldy, the highest peak in the San Gabriels.³² At Old Baldy, the Los Angeles girls enjoyed hiking, trout fishing, camp fires, games, stories, songs and folk dancing.³³

That same month Ludema also found time to help found the Travelers Aid Society of Los Angeles.³⁴

Ludema and Annie returned to Virginia and Polly Ann Farm in March 1917.³⁵ In July, Ludema wrote to her friend, Lou Hoover:

“Dear Lou: Greetings to you from a farmer friend, not an agriculturalist going to and fro, but a real farmer and on the firing line.... Six years ago while in Washington, a friend and I dreamed a dream of having a farm which should become a self-supporting home. The farm was bought, named The Polly Ann for our mothers, and we went to California to earn the needful money. We studied and studied and it was all planned even to an herb garden.... Incidentally, we are rebuilding an old log house. It's all creative work and I like it. The freedom of it is enjoyable after ten years of work as organizer of girls' clubs, etc., and as publicity secretary for a big philanthropic organization in Los Angeles. Today we battled all day to save a little pig that either was choking or had pneumonia.... We are five miles from Fairfax Court House on the Robey's Mill Road [and] 25 from Washington. The auto road is good to Fairfax; fair the remainder of the way. Do ride out sometime if you can. ...Affectionately yours, Ludema Sayre”

Lou Hoover did attempt a visit in the spring of 1917:

“My dear Sayrie: Very early in the spring, before any leaves or vegetation was out, while the roads were still quite muddy, the boys and I tried to find you one day and got within a mile-and-a-half of your farm, but we had a friend with us who could not walk, so we could neither leave her in the car or take her with us. A nice gentleman, in a black fur cap and a big overcoat, driving a gray horse and

buggy, told us that we would not be able to get further with the roads as they were...Yours, as always, Lou."

For the next several years the two women worked on *Polly Ann Farm*. The farm was a success as witnessed by advertisements the women placed in the *Fairfax Herald*. Their specialty appears to have been pigs.

Baby Porkmakers

A SPECIALTY.

BRED RIGHT FED RIGHT

PRICED RIGHT

POLLY ANN FARM

Robey's Mill Road.

Buy Now. \$5 and \$10 Each

— — — — —

Sausage Week: Feb. 10-17.

Cash with Order at 40c per lb.

ANN PEARSON,
LUDEMA SAYRE,
Feb 7-3t R. F. D. 3, Fairfax, Va.

Source: *Fairfax Herald*, February 7, 1919, p. 3.

By the summer of 1923, Annie Pearson's health began to fail. In August, the *Fairfax Herald* reported that she was recovering from an operation.³⁶ This probably meant that Ludema had to try and run the farm by herself. Apparently, Annie's health problems were severe enough that Ludema began to look at other options.

In June 1923, Fairfax Postmaster Charles F. Cummins announced his retirement. At the time, Postmasters were the political appointees of the President of the United States. Typically, a would-be postmaster had to first secure the support of his/her Congressman or Senator in order to be considered by the President. The U.S. Senate then confirmed the President's appointment. Although Postmaster's were political appointees, Postmaster candidates still had to take a competency exam. In July 1923, Ludema was one of several Fairfax residents to take the Postmaster's Exam. Ludema was a Republican, and it is unlikely that she enjoyed the support of either Congressman R. Walton Moore or Senator Harry F. Byrd, both of whom were Democrats. However, being a Republican was a definite advantage over the other Postmaster candidates and Ludema had some very powerful Republican friends in Washington. In 1920, Warren G. Harding, a Republican, had been elected President. He appointed another Republican, Herbert C. Hoover, as his Secretary of

Commerce. When President Harding died suddenly in August 1923 his Vice President, Calvin Coolidge, became President. Herbert Hoover remained as Secretary of Commerce. It is not known whether Ludema directly lobbied President Coolidge for the Fairfax Postmaster position. But she did have several things in common with the new President. Both of them were Republicans and both were members of the Congregational Church. In addition, Grace Coolidge, the new First Lady, shared Ludema's advocacy for young women, particularly the Girl Scouts of America and Campfire Girls. In a 1931 letter to Lou Hoover, Ludema named Rev. John Thomas Huddle, of St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Washington, DC (1904-1929), as the person who actually secured her appointment as Fairfax Postmistress in 1923.³⁷ However, in the end it was probably a combination of things, including the influence of her old friend, Lou Hoover.

Ludema passed the Postmaster Exam and was appointed Acting Postmistress of Fairfax in November 1923.^{38,39} She immediately advertised for a caretaker for *Polly Ann Farm* and she and Annie moved to Fairfax, boarding with Rev. & Mrs. Frank Page.^{40,41} Frank Page was the minister of Truro Episcopal Church.

President Coolidge appointed Ludema Sayre Postmistress of Fairfax in December 1923, the first woman to hold that position.⁴²

In 1923, the Fairfax Post Office was located on the south side of Main Street just east of Sauls Grocery Store (s.e. corner of Main and University).

In the spring of 1925, Ludema's mother died in California and she traveled there for her funeral. In May 1925, Annie, who had been ill, conveyed her half interest in *Polly Ann Farm* to Ludema.⁴³ Less than one year later, Annie Pearson died of a heart attack, at age 58. She was buried along with her parents, Joseph L. and Sarah Ann Pearson in Oak Hill Cemetery, (Lot 244, East) Washington, DC.⁴⁴ Her obituary perhaps best indicated her relationship with Ludema Sayre:

*"...Miss Sayre, with whom Miss Pearson had been associated for years past, has the sympathy of her friends in her grief at the death of her more than sister."*⁴⁵

Ludema was named the executor of Annie Pearson's estate.⁴⁶

Immediately after Annie's death Ludema went on something of a buying spree. In April 1926, she bought two lots in the newly created Halemhurst subdivision along Main Street, and a lot on Cedar Avenue in July 1926.⁴⁷

That same year she organized a patrol of Girls Scouts at Fairfax in July. By October there were twenty four girls comprising four patrols: *Red Clover Patrol* – Dorothy Ritchie, patrol leader; Marion Earle, corporal; Evelyn Coyner, Romaine Rooney, Reba Cupp, Elizabeth Wiley, Dorothy Hinds and Randolph Richardson, scouts. *Pine Cone Patrol* – Warwick Rust, patrol leader, Grace Rooney, corporal; Mary Blake, Vivian Gillespie, Roberdeau Allison and Jean Ritchie, scouts. *Pine Tree Patrol* – Mary Walton McCandlish, patrol leader, Ruth Sherwood, corporal, Nancy McCandlish, Elizabeth Marshall, Mary Frances Cooper, scouts. *Forget Me Not Patrol* – Mary Louise Graham, patrol leader; Hannah Lee corporal; Esther Kincheloe, Margaret Rhodcap, LaVerne Rhodcap and Emma Etter, scouts.⁴⁸

The Post Office, along with the Hardware and General Store was a place where everybody went for information and to share gossip. In the fall of 1928, the talk was about the upcoming Presidential election. On at least one occasion Ludema relayed such information to her friend Lou Hoover:

"A lawyer friend of mine stated that he could not vote for Smith and he could not vote for Hoover and he just thought he'd go away at election time. When pressed as to the reason, he said: 'Miss Sayre, I could not vote for a man who did what Hoover did during the War. He made \$13,000,000 on sugar while the rest of us were doing without.' 'Couldn't be true, Mr. Rust. You certainly have gotten hold of some garbled version of something. But no one knowing the man could think for one moment that your story could be true.' ...Now, this might not be important but for his widespread influence. Our

*rural mail carrier at the farm told my brother that he was not for Smith but he certainly could not vote for a man who made \$13,000,000 off sugar during the War. Now this mail carrier is not a reading, thinking man, but he does chat with my friend as hundreds of farmers about here do. He has the listening ear himself and they 'drop in' when they come to the village.' ...Mail time. Success to us all, Ludema"*⁴⁹

Lou Hoover's rapid reply came several days later:

*"Dear Ludema: What influence the rural mail carriers do have! And how easy it is to refute the tales of Mr. Hoover making money out of wheat, corn, and sugar for the Sugar Equalization Board, the Wheat Commission, and similar organizations set up at the time of the War.... I am trying to get some printed material on this subject to send to you and you in turn can educate the mail carrier and your lawyer friend! ...Yours sincerely, Lou"*⁵⁰

Herbert C. Hoover was elected President in 1928. Ludema, who was a delegate to both the Eight District and Virginia State Republican Conventions, helped Hoover orchestrate an upset in Virginia and pierce the *solid south* for the first time since the Civil War.^{51,52} After the election Ludema would be a frequent visitor at the White House over the next several years and she became something of a celebrity in Fairfax:

*"Dear Lou: It was so lovely to be with you on Sunday! You made it so easy for your old friend, too, by sending the car. ...This aristocratic village has been stunned to its depths, ...L.S."*⁵³

Herbert Hoover became President just before the stock market crashed in 1929. The country was thrown into the economic crisis that became known as The Great Depression. Ludema did not escape its effects. Not only did she lose her bulk of her wealth in the stock market crash, she had borrowed heavily to invest in the market

as well. She gave *Polly Ann Farm* as collateral on these loans. As the depression deepened her assets continued to dwindle. To cover her mounting debts she was she sold her lot on Cedar Avenue to Paul & Elma Brown in 1931.

By 1932, Ludema was becoming increasingly desperate. She wrote to the First Lady in July to explain her situation and ask for help:

*“...And now, I am going to ask a favor for myself. Will you tell me, please, the name of the official to whom one should apply for a loan from the Home Loan Fund? I certainly shall be losing my farm next year if I cannot get a loan. You see “...the past three years [I] have been through a series of Hades, every three months being scared to death that Burke & Herbert, bankers of Alexandria, would sell my stocks because of a loan made there with them as security. Then, came the time when my several thousand dollars worth of stocks were worth but twenty cents on the dollar and I had to give them my farm as additional security. So, they simply have everything to cover a \$5,000 loan. This miserable loan was made for a stock purchase. The value may return, meanwhile, I just die every few months. The mortgage note is up in a year, and I am hoping that I may be one of the fortunate ones to secure a loan.... There have been times when I thought that I should go under, physically, but always I’ve thought what a hideous thing it would be if I were to pass out without finishing my job. My love to you, and may the campaigning go well.... L.S.”*⁵⁴

Mrs. Hoover, through her private secretary, sent Ludema \$150.00.

Mrs. Hoover also wrote personally to the U.S. Postmaster General in February 1932 regarding Ludema’s

re-appointment as the Fairfax Postmistress. As a result, Ludema was reappointed in April for four years.

In a highly speculative move, Ludema purchased two lots on Main Street in the newly created Westmore subdivision in October 1932. The purchase was secured by a mortgage. That same year, 1932, was also another Presidential election year. Herbert Hoover, the Republican incumbent, lost to Franklin Roosevelt, a democrat, in a landslide.

In late June 1933, Ludema received word that President Roosevelt had appointed a new Fairfax Postmaster, the Democratic Deputy Treasurer of Fairfax County, Lewis M. Coyner. On July 3rd Ludema failed to keep an appointment with postal inspectors and turn over the account books of the Fairfax Post Office to the new postmaster. An audit was a routine step whenever a new postmaster took office. She claimed to have taken them home to “complete her quarterly account.” In truth, her financial house of cards was collapsing and she was trying to shield the fact that she had embezzled funds from the Fairfax Post Office.⁵⁵ She ultimately did turn over the books.

Realizing that she would be probably be found out, Ludema immediately sold all of her Fairfax property. This included *Polly Ann Farm*, a portion of which went to sister, Annesly L. Marquis, of Los Angeles.^{56, 57}

In December 1933, Ludema was indicted by a Federal Grand Jury on six counts of embezzlement. The indictment alleged that she had embezzled \$3,372.62 during the period July 1, 1932 to July 1, 1933. In three days she was arraigned, plead guilty and sentenced. She received a suspended sentence of two years with two years of probation. Ludema left one week later for California never to return to Fairfax.^{58, 59, 60}

During her final years she lived quietly with her sister, Annesly Marquis, in Los Angeles, where she died November 2, 1941. She is buried in Rosedale Cemetery (Section N, Lot 40), Los Angeles, California.^{61, 62}

(Endnotes - Mary Ludema Sayre)

- ¹ California Death Index 1940-1997, Mary Ludema Sayre; California Department of Health Services, Office of Vital Records, M.S. 5103, P.O. Box 997410, Sacramento, CA 95899-7410.
- ² *Los Angeles Times*, July 31, 1904, p. A2.
- ³ U.S. Census of 1900, Los Angeles, CA, p. 822.
- ⁴ *Los Angeles Times*, June 30, 1893, p. 4.
- ⁵ Papers of Lou Henry Hoover, Herbert Hoover Presidential Library, 210 Parkside Drive, West Branch, IA, 52358.
- ⁶ Postcard from Ludema Sayre to Lou Henry, October 29, 1894, Papers of Lou Henry Hoover, Herbert Hoover Presidential Library, 210 Parkside Drive, West Branch, IA, 52358.
- ⁷ *Los Angeles Times*, Various Issues 1896-1906.
- ⁸ *Los Angeles Times*, February 10, 1901, p. A10.
- ⁹ *Los Angeles Times*, February 10, 1901, p. A10.
- ¹⁰ *Los Angeles Times*, November 27, 1901, p. 10.
- ¹¹ *The Washington Post*, November 14, 1908, p. 2.
- ¹² *Los Angeles Times*, June 23, 1901, p. A10.
- ¹³ *Los Angeles Times*, August 11, 1901, p. B12.
- ¹⁴ *Los Angeles Times*, August 12, 1901, p. 11.
- ¹⁵ *Los Angeles Times*, May 29, 1904, p. A3.
- ¹⁶ *Los Angeles Times*, July 31, 1904, p. A2.
- ¹⁷ *Los Angeles Times*, December 2, 1906, Illustrated Magazine.
- ¹⁸ *The Washington Post*, November 14, 1908, p. 2.
- ¹⁹ *Los Angeles Times*, August 4, 1912, p. 3.
- ²⁰ Stratford Junior High School, National Register of Historic Places Registration Form, p. 8, Virginia Department of Historic Resources, 2801 Kensington Avenue, Richmond, VA 23221.
- ²¹ *The Washington Post*, January 9, 1910, p. A11.
- ²² *The Washington Post*, October 19, 1895, p. 3.
- ²³ *The Washington Post*, March 15, 1914, p. 7.
- ²⁴ *The Washington Post*, October 27, 1916, p. 5.
- ²⁵ Fairfax County Deed Book K7, Pg. 635, Fairfax County Circuit Court Clerks Office.
- ²⁶ Letter from Ludema Sayre to Lou Hoover, July 17, 1917, Papers of Lou Henry Hoover, Herbert Hoover Presidential Library, 210 Parkside Drive, West Branch, IA, 52358.
- ²⁷ *The Washington Post*, February 4, 1912, p. 2.
- ²⁸ *The Washington Post*, March 16, 1912, p. 7.
- ²⁹ *Los Angeles Times*, August 25, 1912, p. 17.
- ³⁰ *Los Angeles Times*, October 18, 1912, p. 4.
- ³¹ *Los Angeles Times*, April 25, 1914, p. 15.
- ³² *Los Angeles Times*, June 17, 1914, p. 11.
- ³³ *Los Angeles Times*, August 2, 1914, p. 9.
- ³⁴ *Los Angeles Times*, June 26, 1914, p. 11.
- ³⁵ Letter from Ludema Sayre to Lou Hoover, July 17, 1917, Papers of Lou Henry Hoover, Herbert Hoover Presidential Library, 210 Parkside Drive, West Branch, IA, 52358
- ³⁶ *Fairfax Herald*, August 3, 1923, p. 5.
- ³⁷ Letter from Ludema Sayre to Lou Hoover, February 20, 1931, Papers of Lou Henry Hoover, Herbert Hoover Presidential Library, 210 Parkside Drive, West Branch, IA, 52358.
- ³⁸ *Fairfax Herald*, October 19, 1923, p. 5.

- ³⁹ *Fairfax Herald*, November 2, 1923, p. 3.
- ⁴⁰ *Fairfax Herald*, November 16, 1923, p. 3
- ⁴¹ *Fairfax Herald*, November 30, 1923, p. 3
- ⁴² *Fairfax Herald*, December 21, 1923, p. 5.
- ⁴³ Fairfax County Deed Book M-9, Pg. 417, May 23, 1925.
- ⁴⁴ *Fairfax Herald*, January 15, 1926, p. 3; obituary of Annie Pearson.
- ⁴⁵ *Fairfax Herald*, January 15, 1926, p. 3; obituary of Annie Pearson.
- ⁴⁶ *Fairfax Herald*, January 29, 1926, p. 3.
- ⁴⁷ Fairfax County Deed Book 59, p. 211 & Deed Book U9, p. 336; Fairfax County Circuit Court Clerk, Fairfax, VA.
- ⁴⁸ *Fairfax Herald*, October 22, 1926, p. 5.
- ⁴⁹ Letter from Ludema Sayre to Lou Hoover, October 4, 1930, Papers of Lou Henry Hoover, Herbert Hoover Presidential Library, 210 Parkside Drive, West Branch, IA, 52358.
- ⁵⁰ Letter from Lou Hoover to Ludema Sayre, October 8, 1928, Papers of Lou Henry Hoover, Herbert Hoover Presidential Library, 210 Parkside Drive, West Branch, IA, 52358.
- ⁵¹ *Fairfax Herald*, March 2, 1928, p. 1.
- ⁵² *Fairfax Herald*, August 31, 1928, p. 1.
- ⁵³ Letter from Ludema Sayre to Lou Hoover, June 5, 1930, Papers of Lou Henry Hoover, Herbert Hoover Presidential Library, 210 Parkside Drive, West Branch, IA, 52358.
- ⁵⁴ Letter from Ludema Sayre to Lou Hoover, July 13, 1932, Papers of Lou Henry Hoover, Herbert Hoover Presidential Library, 210 Parkside Drive, West Branch, IA, 52358.
- ⁵⁵ *The Washington Post*, July 5, 1933, p. 14.
- ⁵⁶ Fairfax County Deed Book I-11, Pg. 464, August 17, 1933.
- ⁵⁷ Fairfax County Deed Book I-11, Pg. 487, August 21, 1933.
- ⁵⁸ *The Washington Post*, December 6, 1933, p. 10.
- ⁵⁹ *The Washington Post*, December 9, 1933, p. 17.
- ⁶⁰ *Fairfax Herald*, December 29, 1933, p. 1.
- ⁶¹ *Fairfax Herald*, January 2, 1942, p. 1; obituary of Ludema Sayre.
- ⁶² California Death Index 1940-1997, Mary Ludema Sayre; California Department of Health Services, Office of Vital Records, M.S. 5103, P.O. Box 997410, Sacramento, CA 95899-7410.



The HFCI Board meets on the 2nd Wednesday of each month in room 306, at City Hall, Fairfax, Virginia. Visitors are welcome!

HOMES TOUR & RAFFLE

Historic Fairfax City, Inc. is sponsoring a homes tour and raffle in the City of Fairfax, on Saturday, April 30, 2005. All proceeds from the tour and raffle will benefit the restoration and preservation of the City of Fairfax historic properties.

Tickets for the tour and raffle are available at the Fairfax Museum and Visitor Center, located at 10209 Main Street in the City of Fairfax. Advance sale tickets are \$15; tickets purchased on tour day are \$20. Raffle tickets will also be available for \$5 each.

The tour consists of 6 privately-owned homes in the City of Fairfax, each highlighting a different decade of changing suburban styles throughout the century, from 1900 to 2000.

The tour echoes the theme of Housing Suburbia, a new temporary exhibition on the emergence and growth of the Northern Virginian suburbs. The exhibition's opening at the Fairfax Museum and Visitor Center coincides with the Homes Tour on Saturday, April 30, 2005. Tour-goers are urged to begin the tour with a visit to this fascinating exhibit in order to enjoy the fullest experience. Admission to the Museum and Visitor Center and its exhibits is free to the public.

Homes on the tour:

The Home of John and Jeanette Mason (c. 2000)
3845 Farr Oak Circle
Owned by: John and Jeanette Mason

Bottorff Stube (c. 1975)
9912 Great Oaks Way
Owned by: Gary and Pat Bottorff

Nonna's House (c. 1954)
10122 Farmington Drive
Owned by: Teresa Peduzzi

Montgomery's Cottage (c. 1940)
10621 Oliver Street
Owned by: Keith and Melinda Ardinger and Family

The Painted Yellow House (c. 1930)
10506 Cedar Avenue
Owned by: Dirk and Ellen Brouwer

The Keith House (c. 1907)
10524 Cedar Avenue
Owned by: John and Ann Keith

CONTACTS and INFORMATION

- For general information about the Homes Tour and ticket inquiries, please contact the Fairfax Museum and Visitor Center at 703.385.8414.

- For more information about the Housing Suburbia exhibition and special related programs, please contact Susan Gray, Curator at sgray@fairfaxva.gov or 703.385.8415.
- For more information about Historic Fairfax City, Inc., please contact Hildie Carney, President, at 703.591.5303.

2005 Fairfax City Homes Tour Raffle Sponsors and Prizes

(Raffle tickets are \$5 each and will be available at the Fairfax Museum and Visitor Center beginning March 15, 2005. Drawing will be at 4:00 PM on April 30, 2005 at the Fairfax Museum and Visitor Center — need not be present to win.)

ABS Unlimited Auto Repair
Oil change, lube and filter

Bailiwick Inn
Overnight stay incl. afternoon tea and breakfast

Bravadas Wigs Design
Sun or gardening hat

Circa Home & Garden
Hand-woven basket filled w/ a watercolor entitled "Mother's Day," a Pear Linden soap, and potpourri

Design Exchange
Designer pillow

Kathleen Keitt
Half-cord of firewood, delivered and stacked

George Mason Center for the Arts
Two tickets to a concert during 2005-2006 season

Connaught Place Restaurant
Gift certificate

The Second Yard
French Country kitchen basket

SfiZi Italian Deli Café
Imported Italian gourmet basket

Trader Joe's
Basket of goodies

Welcome New Member!

The Board of Directors of HFCI extends a hearty welcome to new HFCI member:

Deborah F. Bailey



HISTORIC FAIRFAX CITY, INC.

Do you want to know more about the history of where you live?

JOIN HISTORIC FAIRFAX CITY, INC.

Just what is available to you as a member of HFCI?

A newsletter, 4 times a year announcing what is happening with all HFCI projects and events

2 general meetings a year, affording you an opportunity to meet and speak with people behind the scenes working to maintain interest in the history of Fairfax.

We are looking forward to having you be a part of the City's bi-centennial in 2005. We need and value your support. Together we will preserve the heritage that has been left to us.

The Board of Directors of
Historic Fairfax City, Inc.



HFCI General Meeting

Please plan on attending the HFCI General Meeting, Wednesday, May 18th, 7:00 pm at Old Town Hall. Business Meeting to be followed by Educational/Entertainment Program.

HFCI MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/ RENEWAL

HISTORIC FAIRFAX CITY, INC. is a non-profit corporation (501©(3) organization)

Membership Classifications:

- Class A Individual\$25.00
- Class A-1 Additional Household Member\$10.00
- Class B-1 Non-profit Organizations\$35.00
- Class B-2 For profit Organizations\$50.00

Enclosed is my tax-deductible membership application and check made out to Historic Fairfax City Inc. for: \$ _____

Name or Organization: _____

Telephone #: _____

Contact name: _____

e-mail: _____

Address: _____

Return to: Historic Fairfax City, Inc.,
Attention: Membership Committee
10209 Main Street
Fairfax, VA 22030

City of Fairfax – Celebrating 200 Years



"Preserving the Past. Protecting the Future."

Return Address - Historic Fairfax City, Inc.
Hildie Carney, President
10209 Main Street
Fairfax, VA 22030



The Newsletter of Historic Fairfax City, Inc.

The Fare Facs Gazette © 2005
Editor: William Page Johnson, II

City of Fairfax – Celebrating 200 Years

1805 – 2005



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Feel Our Pride***

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