

Seth Albert Bassett was born 28 March, 1860 in Norwalk, OH; the first son Joseph Milton and Mary A. Wood Bassett. The photograph below is of Joseph Milton Bassett and his family taken in 1871 when Seth Albert was 11 years old.



Seth Albert Bassett was a direct descendant of William Bassett who came to America on the ship Fortune joining the survivors of the Mayflower on Cape Cod on 9 November 1621. William Bassett was an iron worker and gunsmith.

We don't have much history on the skills or employment of Seth Albert Bassett as a young man. At age 20, as shown in the 1880 Census for Norwalk, OH, Seth was living with his parents and "in school", which would indicate he had additional schooling beyond high school. Seth, at the age of 24, married Ella Isadore Harland on 10 September 1884. She was born in OH. Seth is shown with Ella in the photograph below.



Their first son, Lloyd Milton Bassett was born 18 June 1891 in Cleveland, OH. We believe Seth was a teacher at that time but have no hard evidence of this.

Inspired by news of gold and silver riches in the west, between 1892 and 1894 Seth and Ella moved to Neihart, Montana where he tried his hand at mining. At some point Seth gave up mining and either traded his claim or sold it and acquired a candy and sweet shop. Their second child, Agnes Nancy Bassett, was born on 23 April 1895 in Neihart, Monarch Co., MT. Ella died on 15 November 1895. Lloyd Milton Bassett related to his descendants his recollection of seeing the wagon which transported his mother's body down the street while he and his baby sister were in the care of a babysitter. A volunteer worker in Montana posted the burial record of Mrs. Albert Bassett in the Monarch Cemetery, Monarch, MT based on written records in the State archives. At least two family members have searched the graveyard at Monarch and found no identifiable grave marker. At some point Seth became a school teacher in Monarch, MT a short distance from Neihart. Below is a picture of Seth with his students in Monarch, MT probably taken in 1895 or early 1896.



In late 1896 Seth returned with his two children to the Cleveland, OH area where we believe he was employed as a teacher. On 15 September 1896 Seth married Emelia Celia Lingruen in Cleveland, OH. Below is a picture of Emelia Celia probably taken around 1896.



Seth and Emelia added four more children to the Bassett family. Olive Marie Bassett is born on 23 March 1898 at Zanesville, Muskingum Co., OH. A year later Vara Anna Bassett was born on 12 May 1899 in Norwalk, Huron Co., OH. The 1900 Census indicates Seth Albert, Emelia and family are living in Norwalk, Huron Co., OH. In 1901 son Joseph W. was born in Norwalk, OH and on June 26 1907 daughter Jennie Mae was born, in Norwalk, OH.

Seth again moved his family from OH, this time to Artesia, NM in about 1909. The 1910 Census indicates the family to be settled in Artesia, Eddy Co., NM. Notes from daughter Vara Bassett indicate that they lived in Artesia, in a house that Emelia bought and Seth owned a farm on which he “supervised farm workers”. Vara also wrote that in addition to farming, Seth would buy wild horses at the auction and that she and her sister, Olive would break the horses to lead, ride, and work in harness then sell them. By this time the oldest son, Lloyd had left the family and later settled in the Amarillo, TX area.

Daughter Vara Bassett’s notes further indicate that in 1911 the family moved to Claude, TX on a 360 acre farm about 25 miles east of Amarillo, TX. A letter written to Seth in November 1911 from his Sister Jennie Dean was addressed to him at Claude, Armstrong Co., Texas. Vara also recalled a tooth ache which required a long horse and buggy ride to the dentist’s office in Amarillo to get her tooth taken care of.

At some point, Seth relocated the family to Franklin Co., KS. We know that his daughter Olive Marie married a neighbor, Wesley Graffham in 1920 in Franklin Co. KS. Wesley, at age 20, was still living with his parents in the 1915 Kansas State Census. We can deduce that Olive and Wesley met sometime perhaps a year or two before being married in 1920. Therefore, we believe Seth Albert and family arrived in Franklin Co., KS most likely between 1915 and 1918. The family settled on a 160 acre farm in Homewood Township, Franklin Co.,

KS about 7 miles west of Ottawa, KS. Seth called his farm Rock Ridge Farm. Below is a picture of Seth and Emelia probably taken around 1930 on their farm near Ottawa.



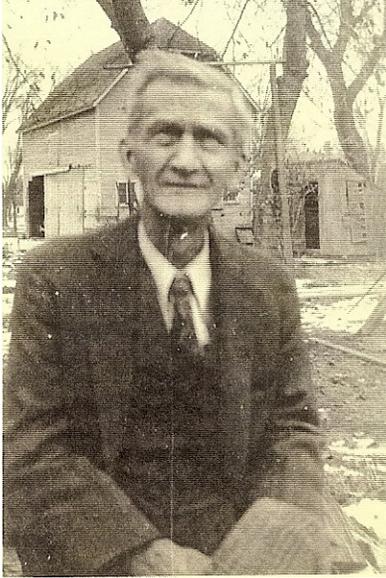
Seth must have been a strong believer in education he quickly enrolled each of the daughters in school following every move. All of the girls finished a minimum of a high school education.

Seth was described by his daughters as a “tall man” but in his later years he walked stooped over due to a back injury. Family stories indicated that the porch “fell on him” when they were doing some work on the house. He lived out his life in Franklin Co. KS as a farmer and cattle raiser.

Seth’s son Lloyd Milton settled on a farm near Claude, TX about 1906, married Verna Estelle Wilmoth and they had three children; Lloyd Milton Jr., Edna Ione, and Albert Leon. Lloyd Milton Jr. died in Midland, TX and is buried in Amarillo, TX. Daughter Agnes Nancy left the household after finishing high school in Ohio and married Mr. Johnson and later William E. Nixon and lived out her life in OH. Daughter Olive Marie married Wesley Graffham in Franklin Co. KS and they had no children. She lived out her life in Franklin Co., KS. Daughter Vara Anna married Dr. Percy A. Scollick and had two daughters, Dorothy Louise and Georgia Jean. Vara resided many years in Ottawa, KS and died in Kansas City, MO. Son Joseph Williams married Ruby Busby and they had three children; Gerald, Roy and Sherman. Joseph lived out his life in Ottawa, KS. Daughter Jennie Mae married Sherman H. Smith in Ottawa, KS; they had three children; Donald Lee, Shirley Mae, and Walter Wesley. She lived out her life in Franklin Co., KS.

Seth initiated written correspondence with the Bassett Family Association, in 1938 to explore the genealogy of his ancestors. A letter dated in 1938 from Eben Bassett of Belfast, Maine answered his inquiry and provided considerable information about the 7 preceding

generations of Bassetts. The correspondence indicated that the Bassett Family Association had been active since before 1898 and showed the direct lineage from Seth back to William Bassett who arrived on the Brig Fortune in 1621. The letter also indicates that Seth Albert had described himself as a former “school-master” in his communications to Eben Bassett. Below is a picture of Seth taken about 1935 – 1940.



Seth’s wife, Emelia Celia Lingruen Bassett died 15 December 1934 in Ottawa, KS. Seth Albert Bassett died 3 February 1942 in Ottawa, KS. Seth and Emelia are buried side by side in Osawatomie Cemetery, in Osawatomie, Miami Co., KS.