

TALLMAN

UNION CEMETERY

(3P) 10-4-01

GEORGE WASHINGTON TALLMAN

NEW YORK

JAILOR

FEB. 24 1888

JUSTICE OF PEACE

R.W.S.

71 YRS.

PG. 32

PLOT MASONIC

T&G 2-25-88: (death of Judge Tallman)....."George W. Tallmann was a native of New York. He came to California by way of the Isthmus during the gold excitement of 1849 and immediately made his way to the diggings; in 1852 he resided in Nevada, County, where he engaged in mining and was elected Justice of the Peace. Later he moved to the State of Nevada where he was again engaged in mining. At one time he operated a toll road near Virginia City with Joseph T. Goodman. He was interested in several mines at different times with Goodman and other prominent men of early days. At one time Judge Tallmann was wealthy but with the decline of the mining industry his wealth vanished and at the time of his death he was comparatively poor. During 1860 and at different times since then Judge Tallman lived in this town. He formerly owned the property of Mrs Wahl on Mound street, and other valuable property in this vicinity. In the fall of 1886* he was elected Justice of the Peace of this township and served one term. Last year he went back to Nevada county to re-engage in mining, but meeting with disappointment returned to this county.He was 71 years of age, and was a member of Nevada Lodge No. 13 F&AM, and a Knight Templar of Virginia City. He leaves a niece, Mrs John D. Havens, residing in San Francisco; and a nephew E. G. Haight, auditor and recorder of San Diego county.....Interment will take place in Union Cemetery.

* unclear print

George Washington Tallman T 4/24/88

WM. WAHL

MARRIED JULY 18, 1880

CATHERINE KREIG

George Washington Tallman

George Washington Tallman was the first peace officer killed in the line of duty in San Mateo County. He was known as Judge Tallman because of two brief periods as a justice of the peace in both the gold country and in Nevada. He became a deputy sheriff in this county and was working as a jailer in the old jail on lower Broadway (as we know it now) when a jail break took place, 4 men escaping.

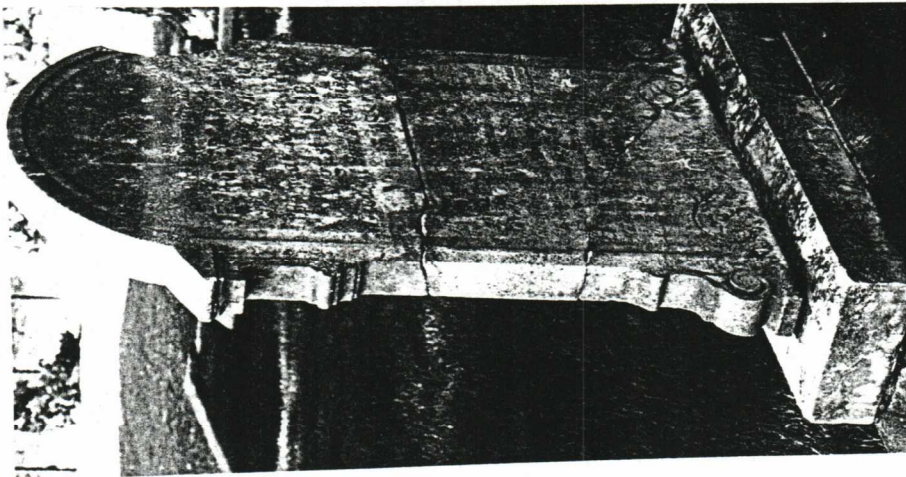
George was buried in the Masonic plot and probably had a stone that said, "Deputy George Washington Tallman died Feb. 18, 1888."

I would like to put first officer killed in the line of duty on the stone but I doubt that it would have been on the original and besides every time I do something like that I suddenly find somebody else that died earlier. I doubt it but this seems more reasonable. There is a substantial amount of interest in this project in the Sheriff's Office as 300 deputy sheriffs have donated \$2.00 for the replacement stone and a deputy sheriff that makes cemetery stones has agreed to make it. The Sheriff himself We only allowed to make a \$3.00 donation and he shares our interest.

George Edgar Filkins died in March 1887 and so I will make George Tallman's stone similar in size and shape but more simple in style. The dimensions are: Height Width Depth

Jean Cloud and I have both done as diligent a search for pictures of the Masonic plot that would illustrate the original stone but we have found nothing that will help.

The stone of George Filkin's is pictured below:



I request your approval to go ahead with this project through the Historic Resources Advisory Committee and the Parks and Recreation Board.

Memorial fund for Deputy George Washington Tallman

San Mateo County Sheriff's Office. Killed in the line of duty 1888.

The first Sheriff's Deputy and first law enforcement officer to die on duty in San Mateo County.

To all of my fellow employees, both sworn and non-sworn, in the Sheriff's Office. I am writing this letter to inform everyone of an incident that happen to one of our fellow deputy's. It came to my attention recently that Sheriff's Deputy George Washington Tallman unfortunately, was the first law enforcement officer in San Mateo County and more importantly the first Sheriff's Office employee killed in the line of duty back in 1888.

Deputy Tallman was laid to rest at the Union Cemetery located in Redwood City. The cemetery is on Woodside Rd. just west of the El Camino Real. The city, state and federal governments recognize the Union Cemetery as a historical site. The Union Cemetery became *State Historic Landmark No. 816* in 1967. In 1983 the *National Register of Historic Places* accepted the Union Cemetery to their group and Redwood City passed a City Ordinance in 1989 making the *Union Cemetery a local historic landmark*.

For many years, leading up to 1993, the cemetery fell into decay. It was a common gathering area for juveniles at night. These unknown kids continued to vandalize the cemetery on numerous occasions by moving headstones around and stealing others. These model citizens also broke into some of the gravesites causing them to flood when it rains. Sometime during this vandalism Deputy Tallman became one of their victims. His gravesite was disrupted and his headstone stolen. OK, enough of the history lesson, if you want to know more about the cemetery contact our own John Edmonds (retired Deputy). He wrote a book about the history of the Union Cemetery.

This damage, caused by the vandals, presented several problems and challenges in trying to restore our local historical site back to the original condition. In 1993, a non-profit organization called the *Historic Union Cemetery Association* (HUCA) formed together. Their mission is to protect, preserve and restore this part of history in San Mateo County. According to records "HUCA" knows that Deputy George Tallman is buried in an area referred to as the "F & AM No. 168". John, who is a member of "HUCA", has taken upon himself of getting Deputy Tallman's headstone replaced but he needs our help. Like any project it takes funds to complete it.

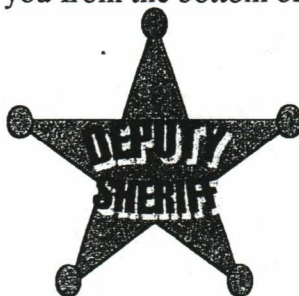
The headstone and the labor to install it is going to cost some money. Other parties have approached John and offered to take care of the cost of the new headstone. As a member of the Sheriff's Office I believe all of the members should share in this cost of this project. All of us can then pay tribute to this man, like the many men and women after him, who made the ultimate sacrifice and gave their life so others can live in peace.

John's goal is to have the headstone ready to go and in place by Memorial Day 2003. A ceremony will take place at the Union Cemetery on that day to honor Deputy George Washington Tallman and others. From what John has told me this should be a beautiful ceremony. John plans to have several, if not all of the other agencies in San Mateo County participate in the ceremony. He is working on having a police motorcade on Woodside Road, starting at opposite ends of the city and ending at the Union Cemetery. Every one is invited and welcomed to attend.

Now comes the sales pitch. Although none of us knew Deputy George Tallman, except for maybe Deputy Joe Rogus or Correctional officer Don Miles he is still one of our own. I am asking each and every member to donate two dollars (\$2.00) toward this worth while project. That's less than the price of a latte at Starbucks, a sandwich at Safeway or a burrito at Una-Mas and it will last a lot longer. I will make contact with everybody in the office for your contribution. I will deposit all of the money collected into a special account at the San Mateo County Credit Union until John needs it. Any excess money will be used for other related projects.

I want to thank each and every one of you from the bottom of my heart. Thank you for participating in this worthwhile project.

OVER 1/2 WAY
\$500. OF \$800



Phil

Deputy Phil Moser

JUDGE GEORGE W. TALLMAN

County Times and Gazette

February 18, 1888

Judge Tallman died yesterday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock. His death was not unexpected. For the first two or three days following his injury, he was in his room at the county jail, and while at that place was seized with a succession of chills and fainting spells. He was removed to more comfortable quarters at the Tremont House where he had the best of care and medical treatment. He failed rapidly, but when asked to make an ante-mortem statement refused to do so declaring that he was in no danger of death.

George W. Tallman was a native of New York. He came to California by way of the Isthmus, during the gold excitement in 1849 and immediately made his way to the diggings. In 1852, he resided in Nevada County where he engaged in mining and was elected Justice of the Peace. Later he moved to the State of Nevada where he was again interested in mining. At one time he operated a toll road near Virginia City with Joseph T. Goodman. He was interested in several mines at different times with Goodman and other prominent men of early days. At one time Judge Tallman was wealthy but with the decline of the mining industry his wealth vanished and at the time of his death he was comparatively poor. During 1860 and at different times since then, Judge Tallman lived in this town. He formerly owned the property of Mrs. Wahl on Mound Street and other valuable property in this vicinity. In the fall of 1886, he was elected Justice of the Peace of this township and served one term. Last year he went back to Nevada County to re-engage in mining but meeting with disappointment returned to this county.

Judge Tallman is truly a California pioneer and he was one of the very few left of the old timers. Among his acquaintances and associates during the early days are men who were prominent in both this state and Nevada. He was kind hearted, and gentlemanly and his death will be keenly felt by his many friends. He was 71 years of age and was a member of the California Pioneers, a life member of Nevada Lodge No 13 F & AM and a Knight Templar of Virginia City. He leaves a niece, Mrs. John D. Havens, residing in San Francisco, and a nephew, E. G. Haight, Auditor and Recorder of San Diego County. The funeral will take place at 2 o'clock Sunday afternoon from Masonic Hall, where the services will be held. The interment will take place in Union Cemetery.

Masonic Plot

Article in same newspaper:

Last Saturday evening, four vagrants, Michael Ryan, Martin Finley, Tom Meyer and Walter Dunlap, who were confined in the county jail, make a bold and successful jail break for liberty. Jailor Tallman's left arm was broken in two places by the ruffians and he now lies at the Tremont House in a critical condition. At six o'clock, Judge Tallman entered the jail to lock the prisoners up for the night, having already given them their supper. He was standing by the large iron door waiting for the trustee to enter and the four threw themselves violently against the unlocked doors.

APRIL 31, 2003

Finally, recognition for long-dead deputy

By Amy Yarbrough

STAFF WRITER

REDWOOD CITY— In life, George Washington Tallman was a judge, gold miner and deputy sheriff.

In death, he was the victim of vandals, who swiped the headstone off his grave.

But next month, the County's first peace officer killed in the line of duty will get a new gravestone to mark his final resting place — and some long-due recognition.

On April 5, local Masons, sheriff's deputies and historians will gather at Redwood City's Union Cemetery to honor Tallman, who died in 1888.

The memorial ceremony will include a police motorcade, color guard and the un-

veiling of the new headstone.

"We wanted to make sure George didn't fall through the cracks," explained San Mateo County Sheriff's Deputy Phil Moser, who began collecting money for Tallman's headstone last summer.

"I thought it was significant that he was one of ours," Moser added, and "that the (sheriff's) office should get involved."

A native of New York, Tallman came to California in the mid-1800s to make his fortune mining gold, according to Sheriff's Deputy John Edmonds, who researched the late lawman's life for the upcoming ceremony.

Tallman then went to Nevada, where he became a justice of the peace, before

moving back to California, twice returning to live in the Redwood City area.

Tallman was eventually hired by the San Mateo County Sheriff, and died of injuries he sustained when four inmates broke out of the county jail, Edmonds said.

Tallman suffered a bleeding compound fracture to his right arm while scuffling with the inmates and died days later, presumably from an infection.

Edmonds said Tallman's tombstone was stolen sometime between 1970 and the early 1990s, when Union Cemetery fell into a state of disrepair and became a favorite target of vandals.

The new headstone is the latest step in the revitalization of the cemetery, an effort that

began with the formation of the non-profit Historic Union Cemetery Association in 1993.

Moser said more than 300 sheriff's deputies chipped in \$2 each to pay for the fallen deputy's tombstone.

The tombstone itself was created by sheriff's deputy Henry Sutter, who in addition to his job in law enforcement works with the Kholmman and Sutter Monument Company in Colma.

The memorial ceremony for Deputy George Washington Tallman takes place at 10 a.m. April 5 at Union Cemetery, located at Woodside Road and El Camino Real. A police procession precedes the ceremony and begins in downtown Redwood City.



DEPUTY SHERIFF
GEORGE WASHINGTON
TALLMAN
DIED FEBRUARY 17, 1888
AGE 71 YEARS
KILLED IN THE LINE
OF DUTY IN
SAN MATEO COUNTY

ERECTED SPRING 2003



YERBA BUENA # 1
CAPITULUS REDIVIVUS
E CLAMPSUS VITUS









WHO'S WHO IN OUR CEMETERY

George Washington Tallman

Masonic Plot

George W. Tallman, born about 1817, was a native of New York. He came to California via the Isthmus about 1849 and made his way to the gold fields. In 1852 he lived in Nevada County where he worked the mines and was Justice of the Peace. He spent time in Nevada where he operated a toll road near Virginia City with Joseph T. Goodman. He was involved with several mines over the years and was at one time wealthy, but with the decline in mining, his wealth vanished.

George Tallman lived in Redwood City in 1860 and at various other times through the years. In the fall of 1886 he was elected Justice of the Peace and served one term.

In February 1888, George Tallman became the first law enforcement officer killed in the line of duty in San Mateo County. Tallman was the jailer at the county jail when four inmates made an escape, fatally injuring Tallman in the process.

After three days, George Tallman died on February 24, 1888. He was 71 years of age. The funeral services were held at the Masonic Hall in Redwood City and George Washington Tallman was buried in the Masonic Plot in Union Cemetery.