

Interview 9/24/57

Samuel Hill

at Maryhill, home of Irwin Robison

[Interview with Irwin Robison]

Came to Maryhill in 1900. Was born back of Wishram in 1897, family moved to Maryhill in 1900.

Railroaded and garage work. Ran ferry. Ran ferry about ~~1906~~ 1906 or 1917

Not at present ferry site but upstream at Spanish Hollow.

Hill built the road and ferry. ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ Spanish Hollow. Called it

Maryhill Ferry. The boat was the Governor West. First one was built by

a man named Robling at Portland. First was a stern wheeler. Second was

built by a man from Vantage. It was a side wheeler, had ^{two} 100 horse power

Scripps engines, friction drive. Man from Vantage was Stickney

The ferry ~~was~~ also ran upstream (meaning another ferry) Hill was to connect 97 straight through. He was visioning what we are doing today. (meaning building a bridge)

Story is told he built the Ferry because he wanted to get across on time. Driving up from Portland with party of guests. Sent word wired, for ferry to meet him. Member of party bet him it would not be there. It wasn't. Hill built his own ferry.

Robison railroaded in 1920 and 1921 on the Oregon Trunk after selling ferry in 1919. Bought place and store and built garage at Maryhill

Father had postoffice and store. Father was postmaster. Started store in ~~1900~~ 1900 and operated it almost until the time of his death.

Robison ran garage, put up windmills, installed ~~pumps~~ pumps.

Stonehenge: Hill brought over George Dickinson of Bellingham, he designed it and brought in young Canadian, John Seegar who took charge and built crpt after Dickinson's death.

~~Robison~~ Robison worked on Dickinson's car. Dickinson asked him what kind of a rig to get cement up to the top of the Stonehenge.

Hotel had been moved from point where Stonehenge is located. It was the only building there.

L

Worked off plans to build Stonehenge.

Drawing, location of mixer for concrete, etc.

↑ N

X Hotel

X Mixer

X elevator

Concrete rig to pour . Pillar forms built and lined with tin over blocks of wood. Pounded tin.

Built two towers side by side to carry carts to highest point.

Had old Model T car. built drum. Quarter yard push carts used. When one went up, the other came down.

Run drum by old Model T, then pushed around and dumped. A platform was built all around the structure. Poured continuously so as not to leave "joins."

Rock pit from which rock for concrete was obtained was located up the hill from the crusher.

Close to 35 or 40 men . Started he thinks in August, worked eight to nine months.

"I remember one day Hill was there and wanted to get up on top by the elevator." No one was permitted to take chances doing that. "Hill wanted up , so he rode up."

Memory of hill:

Could come years later and call each and everyone by name. Repeated words.

Roads were foot deep rock. Made hot mix on top of hill to spread on.

John Seager, last heard from little town over near Blaine. Died about a year ago.

Dickinson built the Peace Portal, U.S. Canada, at Blaine.

Gene Babcock came from the east. Ran ferry for Hill.

9/24/57

Samuel Hill (also Oregon newspapers)

Interview, Bert Geer, Maryhill

Bert Geer. Retired newspaperman, worked on newspaper 1903-1906.

Finished at Pendleton. Night editor and telegraph editor. Heart trouble now (in hospital with heart attack two weeks later).

T.T. Geer, Bert's cousin, owned it. Went there and he, cousin, started Tribune.

Nothing especial about Samuel Hill. Knew ordinary and customary "legends" of Stonehenge, Hill and his works. Lives in house adjoining "Maryhill."

Samuel Hill

Goldendale, visit 2/ 24/57

Goldendale Sentinel, Oct. 11, 1928--After a lapse of a decade the Klickitat County War Memorial is to be completed according to Samuel Hill of Maryhill who recently arrived home.

Materials are now being assembled for this purpose on the bluff above Maryhill overlooking the Columbia.

The Memorial will be built on Mr. Hill's land and is his contribution toward the memory of his country's war dead.

It will be a replica of the Stonehenge of Salisbury Plains, England.

Instead of rock, steel reinforced concrete that is imbedded in the solid rock will be used. The altar stone is already in place, having been dedicated at services attended by the surviving relatives of those whom the memorial will honor.

Just as the 4,000 year old Stonehenge is an arrangement of enduring rocks, and laid astronomically in concentric circles, so will be the Klickitat county memorial.

The only difference will be the materials used.

The delay has been occasioned by the failure to build the North Bank Highway from Lyle through Pasco; according to Mr. Hill. When the highway is completed the Maryhill Museum of Fine arts will be opened, he said.

This museum was dedicated by Queen Marie of Roumania.

Samuel Hill

Relatives

Maryhill, 9/24/57

confirmed, Clifford Dolph,

Bert Geer, Irwin Robison.

Edgar Hill, cousin of Samuel Hill. Bachelor. Came to Maryhill often.

He lived at the Arctic Club at Seattle.

Samuel Hill

Maryhill Field Trip

9/24-26/57

Record of Maryhill Ranch property acquisitions. Deed repository:

Maryhill Museum of Fine Arts, Clifford Dolph, director.

1-Warranty deeds; 2, quitclaim; 3, Assignment of Contract.

At time of acquisition, 1910-12, Samuel Hill listed his address as 814 East Highland Drive, Seattle, Wash.

Maryhill land titles:

William W. Bussey, \$1,000, 1/4 interest, July 16, 1909, to Columbus Land Company.

H.C. Phillips et al to Columbus Land Company, July 16, 1908, \$23,000.

George C. Goss and Myrtle A., to Columbus Land Co., Aug. 3, 1909, \$1868.

B.N. Snover and wife to Charles Depee et al Oct. 10, 1908 to Columbus Land Co., \$225.

Joseph W. Gillenwaters and Annie F., to Harvey Lindley, March 5, 1909, \$100.

John W. Tallman to Columbus Land Co., January 18, 1910 \$2,000.

Almon Baker and Sara Baker to Columbus Land Company, February 8, 1909, \$4,000.

Charles J. Ames and Emma Ames to Columbus Land Co., January 19, 1909, \$2,400.

Dean Wheelhouse et al to Columbus Land Company, April 15, 1909, \$9,600.

Clarence A. Lester and Jennie E. Lester to Columbus Land Company, April 6, 1909, \$6,000.

George G. Goss and Myrtle A. Goss to Columbus Land Company, March 29, 1909, \$2,750.

Frank Aldrich and Clare J. Aldrich to Columbus Land Company, ~~January~~ ^{January} 14, 1909, \$2,000.

I.F. Roberts et ux to Columbus Land Co. 23rd Feby. 1909 \$1,570.

Spokane, Portland and Seattle Railway Co. to Columbus Land Co., March 13, 1911, \$400.

Edward C. Carson to Maryhill Land Co. Oct. 2, 1911, \$1, quitclaim.

Deed: Columbus Land Company to Maryhill Land Co., March 13, 1911.

April 11, 1910, Columbus Land Co. a Corporation under Washington Law to Maryhill Land Company, a corporation, under Washington Law, for \$5, all lands in Klickitat County owned or standing in name of Columbus Land Company. and all property of said company, real, personal and mixed. (?) Samuel Hill, president; C.S. Wheeler, secretary.

William H. Miller and Mary A. Miller to Columbus Land Co., April 6, 1909, \$6,000.

Marion F. Wren and Lavina C. Wren to Columbus Land Company, June 8, 1908, \$2,000, the S 1/2 of the NE Quarter of Section 5, in Township 2 N of Range 16 and that part of lot 2 of said section Township and Range lying north of a line described beginning at a point which is south 80 degrees 36 min. west twenty chains and 27 links from the quarter section corner on the line between sections 4 and 5. Tp. 2, N.R 16 E W M thence south 64 degrees 17 min west 22 chains and 19 links to a point on the west line of lot 2.

Mrs. C.C. Hope to Columbus Land Co. Aug. 3, 1909, \$500.

Ida Konig to Columbus Land Company November 13, 1908 \$1,200.

Sarah E. Jordan to Columbus Land Company July 16, 1909, \$9,000.

Amos H. Stark to Columbus Land Company December 8, 1909

Mrs. Sadie Lewis to Columbus Land Company December 8, 1909, \$1, quitclaim.

Mary I. McCulloch to Columbus Land Co. December 8, 1908.

Cora Bart to Columbus Land Company, December 8, 1908.

David M. Beams et ux to Columbus Land Company November 4, 1909, \$1,500.

Dorrance Smith and Josie H. Smith to Columbus Land Co. \$9,600.

George G. Goss and wife to ~~MaryxxHill~~ Maryhill Land Company, deed March 15, 1911, \$500.

John H. Coffield and wife to Columbus Land Company February 24, 1909, \$30,000.

John W. Welles, Frank Welles and Louie Welles to Columbus Land Company December 8, 1908, \$12,000.

D.O. Bean, administrator to estate of Maude, deceased, February 26, 1909, \$5,000.

Mary J. Hoffman, estate of Henry Lindley, April 2, 1909 a warranty deed, George W. Smith et ux, \$3,680.

(Unchecked rundown, 31 pieces of property, amounting to \$137,893, filed from 1908 to 1910. (11,000 acres, approximately, size of present ranch)

Samuel Hill

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Samuel Hill

Daybreak visit , alone, to

Stonehenge, 9.25/57

Up before daybreak, sleepless night, broken fingers, pain,...pain...
in guest room of basement...sturdy guest room, feeling of wall thickness...
silence of the river below the bluff, silence...deep oppressive silence...
soft carpeting, drapes...iron doors...silence...

Up and quietly down hall to lower bronzedoor and to car...chukars
talking on side of the basalt bluff, darting across hillside, hiding in
foilage, scant foilage growing there... below the river, silent, almost
motionless...below, twinkling lights of the far shore, the highway,
slowmoving lights, gradual awakening of the bluffs, the awakening of the
eastern sky over Mt. Juniper...

Cool, September morning, Indian summer coolness, morning coolness. .
to the memorial

Counted 15 inner ring stones..rolling grass covered hills,
brown topped by exposed soil, top of Mt. Juniper perhaps 14 miles distant,
eastward; 5:45 sun not yet up...walking-up fence posts, telegraph poles,
power lines, walking up the hillside...terraced canyon up which material
to build stonehenge was hauled...roads , still there, that Hill built...
here he left his mark upon the land, upon the hillsides...from here his
mark went out...Sunset highway...

The sun, red flame, tinting the clouds pink and lavender then fading
to grey...the overcast sky, deep rose then red...ball of fire in the
sky...no shadow this morning across the sacrificial stone from the hele
stone east of the monument...even were there no clouds the sun would
be too far to the south, 15 to 20 degrees by guess estimation...
to be on direct line with hele stone so shadow would fall across the
sacrificial stone as it is supposed or as it was designed to do on
the ~~short~~ sunrise of the longest day in the year...the June day....
according to tradition.

Report ...Hele stone placed long after sacrificall stone, then it was discovered that top of Mt. Jupiter prevented rising sun from casting shadow of Hele stone across sacrificial stone...obvious...workmen would have noted this.. there must be no great difficulty from the top of Mt. Juniper. At this date, September 25, 1957, the rising sun is lined up three spans south of a due line between the Hele stone and the sacrificial stone which would be at right angles, to present rising point of sun.

Counted five "trils" the one to the west is the highest.

Thirty stones in the second circle.

Thirty arches in the outer circle.

Below...looking over the bluff, Maryhill, hamlet, vineyards, roads, garden plots.

Below ahome, most ~~xxxxx~~ conspicuous, it was the old hospital when the railway was built. It is occupied (owned?) by Wright.

Across to the south, the solid hills of Oregon...table flat country there after step-climbing from the river.

Sixty feet from the sacrificial, stepped off measurement to the outer ring, stepping from the sacrificial stone due east toward the Hele stone.

By stepped off measurement, the Hele stone is 84 feet east of the outer rim.

Below the brow of the bluff there is the concrete foundation, just below, of the concrete mix plant used for mixing concrete for the monument.

Below: Facing row of buildings, standing at monument, looking northward:

tin roof	composition roof, green	Shingle	2 stories
office	Cottage	Garage to annex	Meadowlark
(1)	(2)	(3)	Inn
			(4)
	rusty fire hydrant.		

In center of intersection, driveway entrance on east , northeast side of Meadowlark Inn...fountain...Spanish type, round shell type on pedestal, concrete, still standing. Across the road to the west of it the shell of the old fire ruined post office and store. Fireplace in back. Hill back of it, rising not too high. Fifty yards west, atop the hill was Miss Mary's Cottage and the church , back of Miss Mary's Cottage was Black Sam's cottage. Now no buildings left there, just hill. Pathway, still stoned and stepped, leading down from Cottage to buildings like office, Meadowlark Inn etc.

Goldendale 9/25/57

Samuel Hill

Consecration of Soldiers and Sailors Memorial, Maryhill, July 4, 1918..
(Goldendale Sentinel)

The altar stone placed, to be followed later by a partial replica of other stones. It is the intention that every soldier or sailor from Klickitat County who dies shall have his name, date of birth and death put on a metal plate and same entered there as a perpetual memorial. The principal inscription to be as follows:

(copied in separate notebook, from the original)

dedicated July 4, 1918 at 1:30 p.m. at basket picnic. Ceremonies continued until 3:30 p.m.

Erection and carrying out of the purposes of this memorial entrusted to committee of five: Samuel Hill (dead) Edgar N. Hill (dead) W.C. Collins (?); J.C. Potter, possibly living at Portland and Charles H. Babcock, dead.

Invocation and opening will be by R.H. Thompson.

Principal patriotic address by Nelson B. Brooks, chairman of the War Council of Klickitat County. Response, acceptance in behalf of Washington University State Historical Society by Edmond S. Meany.

Frank Terrace to speak on part of sailors played in war.
And response in behalf of soldiers by Frank Branch Riley.

Professor W.W. Campbell observer in charge of eclipse of sun occurring here June 8, 1918 located the monument by observation of the North Star so that its position may be determined in all time to come.

Committee in charge: C.F. Camplan, a banker, went to Portland. Son is banker there.

Mrs. H.W. Donner

Mrs. Walter Ferguson.

Dr. H.H. Hartley, dead.

D. Ledbetter (ill)

The following names are inscribed on the never-to-be-forgotten roll of honor: (six in all)

Dewey V. Brumley

John W. Cheshier

James B. Duncan

Robert F. Graham

Carl A. Lester

Robert F. Venable.

Dedicated May 30, 1929 (the 'completed' monument).

Under auspices of the American Legion.

Stonehenge, ~~xx~~ structurally, consists of ~~x~~ large stones set in 2 circles and two ovals, with large altar stone within the central enclosure.

The outer circle is 108 feet in diameter, is made up of 30 upright stones, 16 feet high and 18 feet in circumference.

The inner circle with 30~~xx~~ smaller stones placed on their top (horizontally)

The inner circle consists of 40 single upright stones, each nine feet in height. The ovals are formed of five pairs of trilithons standing separately from each other and rising gradually in height from east to west.

Standing to the east and outside is stone variously known as the Friar's Heel, the Hele Stone or the Sun Stone.

This stone casts its shadow on the altar stone on the day of the summer solstice, usually June 21, and only on this one day.

While in Europe during World War I he ~~was~~ (Samuel Hill) was struck with the thought of Stonehenge memorial. Before dawn of history. Riddle of the centuries.

At Stonehenge (the one in England) --- graves in uncounted numbers scattered about the plains.

Hele stone points to sunrise on the longest day.

Inside the circle on the Northwest and Southeast are two other stones which mark the sunset at the summer and sunrise on the winter solstice. These are only unhewn stones. All are Sarsens or Blocks of local sandstone.

The Slaughtering Stone, half buried, athwart the entrance of the Avenue.

Trilithon:: From Greek Tris, three and lithos, a stone, invented in 1740 by William Stukley.

Donald M. Drake, Portland, brought in men to chisel the basalt rocks.

Samuel Hill

Goldendale, Sept. 25, 1957

Goldendale Sentinel, Thursday May 23--Announcement of dedication set for May 20 30, 1957.

Announcement of location of the altar stone, on June 8, 1918.

Short, Page 1, May 30, time set for 2 p.m. 1929

"workmen busy putting in the finishing touches . Caravan coming from White Salmon to join in dedication and basket lunch.

June 6, 1929--Pg. 1, Goldendale Sentinel, Col. 8

"---The outside circle, 108 feet in diameter is composed of upright stones 16 feet high and 18 feet in circumference with other stones of about the same size placed horizontally on their tops.

There are 39 horizontal ~~stones~~ and 30 upright stones in this circle.

The inner circle consists of 40 single stones each 9 feet high.

The ovals consist of five pair of trilithons standing separate from each other and rising gradually in height from east to west, the highest being 38 feet.

In the center of the oval has been placed the altar stone which is 18 feet long.

The program: Invocation by Rev. R.C. Young. Address by Rufus Hofman, Portland. Vocal quartet, the Dalles Lions Club. Address, Edward W. Robertson, state commander of the American Legion. Vocal Quartet, Lions Club. Address, Frank Terrace of Orilla, Wash. Following ~~then~~ brief remarks by Ben Fisher, state commander, Legion, Oregon. the Boy Scouts assisted in unveiling the inscribed plate on the Altar Stone.

Z.O. Brooks, adjutant of Goldendale Post was chairman. Members of the Goldendale Post who arranged the details of the dedication were M.W. Beck, commandan, Z.O. Brooks, ad utant; H.B. Moore, G.N. Nickerson, Dr. F.H.

Collins, V.A. Bacher

"This is a day of golden memories," E.W. Robertson, Spokane, State commander, said.... "....the man who conceived it more than 10 years ago and who is responsible for its final dedication today carved not a line and raised not a stone to perpetuate his own name and memory. It will carry into future ages the names of the heroic sons of his friends and neighbors, but nothing will tell the traveler who comes to gaze in wondering admiration that it was made possible by the same unselfish spirit who conceived and constructed the Peace Arch at Blaine.

"The monument upon the international boundary was inspired by his love of peace and this upon the banks of the Columbia by his reaction to the sacrifice of war. Both are silent witnesses to the unselfish patriotism but neither bears the name of Samuel Hill.

"This one will perpetuate the names of 12 sons of Klickitat County in such a way as to challenge the attention and the interest of men.

"This one links the unknown future with the undiscovered past.

"No man knows when Stonehenge was builded. No man can tell when this monument shall end. They are thus linked together in seeming fulfillment of the Biblical admonishment "from everlasting to everlasting."

Rufus Holerman, former city commissioner of Portland and long time friend of Samuel Hill spoke of the efforts of Mr. Hill in devoting his time and money to peaceful pursuits.

Frank Terrace of Orilla, Wash., for many years identified with Mr. Hill in his good roads activities, left a sick bed to be present at this dedication.

Goldendale 9/25/57

Samuel Hill

Goldendale Sentinel, May 23, 1929

Goldendale--During the war while in Europe on a war mission he (Samuel Hill and referring to "orld War I) was struck with the fact that after thousands of years of progress the world was still making sacrifice to the gods of war as did the Druids.

"There are thirty upright and 30 horizontal stones in this circle, (outer circle) The inner circle consists of 40 single stones with other similar sized (9 feet high) uprights placed on top.

Nearly two million pounds of reinforced concrete was used in its erection.

Every stone being placed on bedrock. The work taking nearly a year to complete.