NORTHCRAFT MOUNTAIN

Northcraft Mountain (Section 32, Township 15-16N, Range 1W), rising to a height of 1,454 feet southeast of the town of Tenino in Thurston County, was named after the Northcraft brothers, William and Philip, whose Donation Land Claims were located nearby.

Philip D. Northcraft was born in 1825 in Warren County, Virginia. His younger brother, William S. Northcraft, was born about 1833. Philip was a carpenter by trade, but in 1849 he

Early history of Thurston County, Washington. By Georgiana Mitchell Blankenship. 1914.

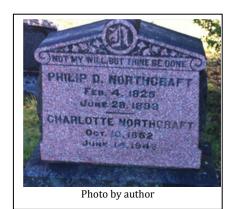
caught gold fever and traveled to the California gold fields. He and William were both in Portland, Oregon in 1850 before moving on to Thurston County in 1853 where they each settled a 320 acre Donation Land Claim.



During the Indian War (1855/56), Philip Northcraft joined Company F (The Grand Mound Rangers) of the Oregon Volunteers under the command of Captain Henness. William Northcraft, a private in Company B (Captain Hays), was serving as a teamster when he was killed during the war on Yelm Prairie in February 1856.

Philip was a farmer and also grew fruit and raised livestock with much success. His lands were rich in coal and timber as well. His broad range of

endeavors even included patenting a Shingle-machine in 1869. He married Charlotte Schulz in 1891.



About Philip it was said: "He was known for a man whose life was a substantial contribution to the general well-being of the community where he lived and labored. He was esteemed for his integrity, fairness and sincerity, qualities that were exemplified in all that he did." A history of the state of Washington by Lancaster Pollard (1937)



Photo courtesy of Google Maps

Philip Northcraft died on June 28, 1899 near Tenino at the age of 74. He is buried in Forest Grove Cemetery, which is located on land once owned by the Northcrafts and Northcraft Road runs along its western edge.

By Richard A. Edwards, Historian, The South Thurston County Historical Society. April 2012.