

## LEMON HILL

Lemon Hill (Section 24, Township 16N, Range 2W) was named in memory of Millard Fillmore Lemon (1852-1943), a pioneer resident of Thurston County and businessman who owned much of what is now known as Lemon Hill.

Millard was born on 6 Sept 1852 to William and Bridget (Patrick) Lemon while the family was journeying by wagon near the Snake River in present day Idaho. "His cradle was a box in the wagon bed, his lullaby the rustle of the wind through the sage brush and grease wood. His mother told, to the time of her last illness, how the little fellow cried day and night, after he was taken into the house, for the rocking of the wagon." [*Early History of Thurston County, Washington, 1914*] The family homesteaded in the Cowlitz River area, where William served during the Indian Wars in the 1850s, before moving to Thurston County.



USGS Map, 1944

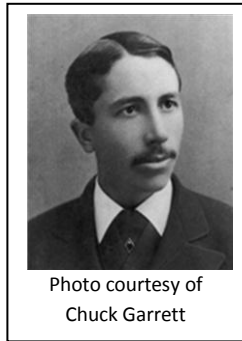
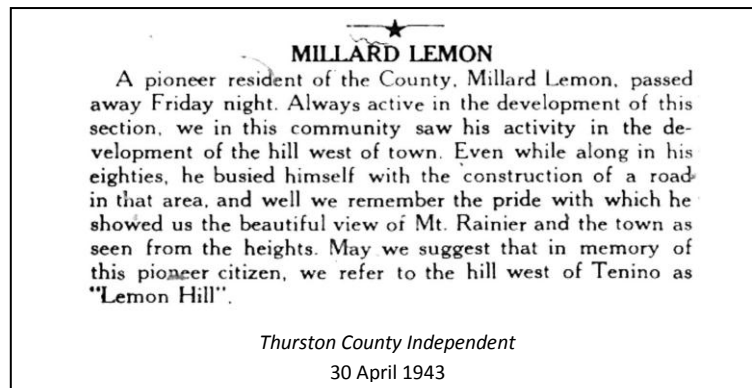


Photo courtesy of  
Chuck Garrett

After graduating from De Pauw University in 1880 and then California State University, he became one of the founders of Santiago College in Chile before returning to the United States in 1888 where he married his boyhood sweetheart, Marabella Cook.

They returned to the Pacific Northwest and lived in Olympia, WA where Millard became a city and county engineer, a thriving businessman, land developer, politician and banker. They had three children: Edith, Mildred and Gerry. Gerry continued the family name from an ancestor related to Elbridge Gerry (5<sup>th</sup> Vice President of the United States) from whose political activities redrawing precinct boundaries engendered the term "Gerrymandering."

Millard had many business interests throughout Thurston County. In 1910 he headed the Casco Company which over time purchased much of the land now known as Lemon Hill. When Millard died on 23 April 1943, the Tenino newspaper suggested, due to his "activity in the development of the hill west of town", it be named after him.



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

Additional Reading: <http://www.olsonengr.com/download/globios/lemonmillardfbio.pdf>