

The Herbert W Armstrong and Radio Church of God Historical Trail & Photo Album



Researched and sites visited by Craig M White
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By Craig M White
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History Research Projects

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www.friendsofsabbath.org

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Authored by Craig Martin White.

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NB: if any links in this document are broken, please go [here](#) where the photographs are linked to can be found.

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Prior to and during my second trip (2017/18) to view, record and photograph these important sites, Benjamin Light was a wonderful asset and extraordinarily helpful. Many others provided information including Randy Stiver, Calvin Burrell (Church of God (seventh day), John Lemley (Church of God (seventh day), Rose Difley and others – all of whom helped to make the trip a success.

Reading extensively about the Church's history, visiting the sites, meeting new and helpful members who related their Church and Ambassador College experiences has been a wonderful time of learning for me personally.

Associated Readings

- *Amazing Temple Symbolism found in Revelation chapter 3!* by C White
- *Church of God and Sabbatarian Timelines* by C White
- *Collection of Notes on Church of God Groups* by C White
- *Doctrines of the Sabbatarians since the First Century* by C White
- *Early Writings of Herbert W Armstrong* by Richard C Nickels
- *Greenberry G Rupert. Man of God* by C White
- *Greenberry George Rupert – A Significant Church of God Leader* by C White
- *Herbert W Armstrong. Man of God* by C White
- *Herbert W Armstrong's Early Beliefs and Doctrines* by C White
- *Herman L Hoeh. Salute to a WCG Pioneer* by C White
- *Historic Church of God Fundamentals of Belief. Tracking the Development of Core Doctrines* by C White
- *Passover and Holy Day Observances since the First Century* by C White
- *Pioneers of the Worldwide Church of God* by C White
- *Research Notes on the Eastern Churches* by C White
- *Sabbatarian Groups: A scattered and little flock* by C White
- *Seventh Day Baptist Relationship to the Church of God* by C White
- *The Autobiography of Herbert W Armstrong* by Herbert W Armstrong
- *The Doctrinal Heritage of the Church of God in the Nineteenth Century* by C White
- *The Final Year of Herbert W Armstrong* by C White
- *The Independent Sabbatarian Groups (c1800-c1860)* by C White
- *Worldwide Church of God Pioneer Timelines* by C White

Direct Website Links

Friends of the Sabbath website information:

(www.friendsofsabbath.org)

Historical Person or Organisation	Description
Alonzo T Jones	A former SDA scholar, then associate of the Church of God and colleague of Greenberry G Rupert
Andrew N Dugger	Church of God pioneer early 1900s to 1975
Ambassador College History & its Treasures	AC History, Catalogues, Pictorials, Photographs, Beautiful treasures that were once at AC. Also audios of the history of AC and HWA Historical Tour video with Rex Sexton here . Dr Hoeh also talks about some of the history of AC in some of these recordings. NB: Ambassador Auditorium Collection at Stanford Libraries
Apostasy!	Information on the great end-time apostasy in the Church of God!
Bible Advocate	Articles by HWA published in the Church of God (seventh day) publication, the <i>Bible Advocate</i> in 1928
Bible Sabbath Association	An organisation that was established to promote Sabbath observance
Bylaws and Constitution	Various editions of the Radio Church of God and Worldwide Church of God bylaws and constitutions
Church of God History (WCG)	Historical information on Herbert W Armstrong, the Radio Church of God and the Worldwide Church of God
Church of God History (ancient to modern times)	The 2,000 year history of Sabbatarians until recent times
Church of God periodicals (old)	A collection of old and rare publications from the mid-1800s including the original Church of God publication 'The Messenger of Truth.'
Church of God History - further resources	Huge amount of information on the Giving & Sharing site
Church of God History audios & videos	Dozens of Sermons and lectures on the subject inc many by Dr Hoeh.
Churches of God history by Richard Nickels	Hundreds of pages of fascinating information

Historical Person or Organisation	Description
Church of God Leading Ministers grave sites	Honouring and remembering our pioneers and men in the faith
Church of God (Seventh Day)	Information about CG7 pioneers and various other information
Church of God (Seventh Day) history	Large amounts of original papers and articles
Craig's articles on Church History	Articles, notes and charts on church history etc
Greenberry G Rupert	Church of God pioneer early 1900s.
Herman L Hoeh Collection (WCG Pioneer)	Most senior WCG pioneer, after HWA. Audio sermons and studies here
Herbert W Armstrong books etc	His most popular books in PDF plus other materials and articles of interest. Grave site information here and here
Herbert W Armstrong and early Radio Church of God Historical Trail	Following the footsteps of Herbert W Armstrong and the early Radio Church of God
Herbert W Armstrong Research Centre (Library and Archives)	Preserving the literature and memory of a man God used in these last days
History of WCG Foreign Works	The Works in Europe, Australia etc. The Spanish, French, German Works etc
Kenneth Herrmann Papers (WCG Pioneer)	Thesis, papers, articles and letters by Kenneth Herrmann. Grave site information here
Lectures, Sermons, Studies	100s of rare and old recordings back to the 1950s
Leroy Neff Papers (WCG Pioneer)	Excellent articles and papers by a pioneer. Grave site information here
Photographs and Graphics	Scores of photos and graphics of HWA, GTA, old WCG pioneers, HWA crest, prayer rock, certificates etc
Raymond F McNair Papers (WCG Pioneer)	Papers and articles. Sermons here
Richard C Nickels (Church historian)	See his website here
Robert E Fahey	Articles and sermons inc. 2 very rare sermons on the Place of Safety (1980). He was an AC graduate 1965; Evangelist; HWA's Executive Assistant; member of the Council of Elders and Regional Director for South Africa, Australia, Canada. Sermons here . Grave information here
Roderick C Meredith Papers (WCG Pioneer)	Papers and articles. Sermons here . Grave site information here

Historical Person or Organisation	Description
Seventh-day Adventists	Large collection of historical information and research
Seventh Day Baptists	Historical works valuable for sabbatarian history research

Introduction

For many years I have had great interest in the history of the sabbatarian movement from its foundations in the first century.

It dawned on me many years ago that some of the Churches of God have not kept a detailed history of their pioneers, including the Worldwide Church of God (known as the Radio Church of God until 1968).

I noticed also that the Seventh Day Baptists and Seventh-day Adventists (and non-Sabbatarians) have kept very good historical records of the history of their groups – see for example:

- <http://sdbhistory.org/>
- <http://www.aplib.org/>
- <http://washington.netadvent.org/>
- http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Seventh-day_Adventist_Church_Pioneers
- http://www.thethirdangelsmessage.com/pioneers_philadelphia.php

As such I determined to keep record of the Worldwide Church of God pioneers and others overlooked (such as Greenberry George Rupert) in the following articles:

- *Church of God and Sabbatarian Timelines*
- *Worldwide Church of God Pioneers Timeline*
- *List of Pioneers and Senior Veterans of the Worldwide Church of God*
- *Greenberry George Rupert. A Significant Church of God Leader*
- *Greenberry George Rupert. Man of God!*
- *Herbert W Armstrong. Man of God!*
- *Herman L Hoeh. A Salute to a Worldwide Church of God Pioneer*
- And a lot more at <http://www.friendsofsabbath.org/ABC.htm> and in my own collection of information in folders

It seemed to me that there was a real need for consolidated information and a logical ‘trail’ of Herbert W Armstrong’s and the Radio Church of God’s early Work – that something in this vein was overdue for assembling together. Hence this historical trail and album.

Although I took many photographs, some have been collected from *The Autobiography of Herbert W Armstrong*, the internet and a trip I undertook in October 2011 to Portland, Eugene and Willamette Valley in Oregon and Los Angeles, others have also supplied photographs. A more extensive trip undertaken in late 2017-early 2018 yielded further details and photographs.

Finally, instead of consolidating all of the photographs into one document, this was considered to be too unwieldy, too large to e-mail and unmanageable as the document is updated over time. Instead I chose to develop a document that would contain links to the photographs and documents. I think most would agree that this would be the best option.

So, just click on the blue links within this document to access the information and photographs.

Suggestions for any improvements or inclusions are always welcomed.

Visit to the Historical Sites 2011

It was on-off, on-off on about 5 occasions, but I finally made it to America in 2011.

I missed going to two Feast sites many years ago due to my student years; I was due to visit Herman Hoeh in mid-2005; Richard Nickels in 2006 and Raymond McNair in 2008. Alas, none of these visits eventuated due to their passing into 'sleep,' as the Bible puts it.

In any event, after a 1.5 hour delay at Sydney airport I arrived in Los Angeles after around 13 or 14 hours and took an hour to get through customs due to the queue. After finally found the terminal for Alaska Airlines and made it just in time with minutes to spare! A couple of hours later I was picked up at Portland Airport by a member who whisked me to my hotel room.

Visit with Church of God (seventh day) elder

Another member drove me the next morning to meet up with John & Lois Lemley for breakfast (he is an elder with the Church of God (seventh day)). They are wonderful folk whom I have been in touch with for many years. I have, in fact, been in contact with the Church of God (seventh day) and many other groups since teenage years and still receive the *Bible Advocate* magazine. They are such kind, generous and loving folk and even offered me free accommodation, use of their car for the Feast and clothing if I needed it. They exhibit the qualities of GIVE not always seen! They have very good, pure hearts and I appreciated their company very much. John is a specialist in the Wed Crucifixion-Saturday resurrection doctrine and his papers have been uploaded to <http://friendsofsabbath.org/cog7.htm> for anyone to download for free.

After the Feast John wrote on 15 Oct:

“Lois and I thank the Lord for the pleasure of meeting you at long last. Thanks for coming to our home and sharing breakfast with us last Tuesday.

We plan to drive to Walla Walla this afternoon to attend the 40th anniversary of COG7 there. We lived there from 1974 - 1983 and 1993-1995. I served as the pastor for much of that time. It will be good to spend Sabbath with them again.

If the remainder of your time in the U.S. will allow us to see you again, please let us know when and where is good for you. May God bless you throughout your time here and grant you a safe return home.

Thanks so much for the lovely gifts you brought! If there is anything you think of that you need to make your time here better, let me know."



John & Lois Lemley (Oct 2011)

Then on 27 Oct John Lemley wrote again:

"Your visit to our home was certainly lots of fun for us. We look forward to the next one whether at your home or ours.

Lois' grandparents were Andrew Nugent and Effie Carpenter Dugger. They had four children. Andrew, Orabelle, Naomi and Mary. You took a picture of it. The original was taken in 1947. There is also a picture of Effie playing the violin. And another picture of young Andrew with his brother Alex and a dog. You have picture of Andrew and Effie in the history document you gave me.

Andrew's parents were Andrew Ferguson and Virginia Belle Miller Dugger. There are separate pictures of them. Virginia's parents were Nathan and Sarah Miller.

Andrew F. Dugger parents were James and Mary Margaret Schaeffer Dugger. They are in separate pictures. James is young and Mary looks very old.

If you took copies of Effie's side of the family, there is a picture of the Carpenter family. And of her mother's Grimm family.

The chair was made by Andrew N. Dugger's father - Andrew F. Dugger. He made it for his retarded daughter who died in her teens.”

The pictures he refers to are located [here](#).

Radio Church of God & Herbert Armstrong Historical Sites

I brought with me a list of sites associated with HWA and the old Radio Church of God - that afternoon I was driven around by a kind member to try and find these sites such as where HWA was baptised and the Portland Library where HWA spent so much time (these are posted to <http://www.friendsofsabbath.org/Trail/trail.htm>).

Then I departed for Eugene having decided to hire a car instead of borrowing one that was offered by the Lemley's - I felt a lot more comfortable with that.

I slept overnight in Eugene and the next day tried to find these important historical sites - some I found but others I couldn't - I took photographs of those that I did find such as [4th Avenue](#) (where the Armstrong's lived), [8th Avenue](#) (where first church building was located), [Amtrak Station](#) (where many broadcasts were recorded), [Hult building](#) (site of first home office, now replaced by the Hult), [Royal Street](#) (where the Firbutte Hall is supposed to be located but I could not find), the [Odd Fellows Building](#) that had a room HWA operated out of at one time and [KORE radio station](#) that broadcast HWA's programs.



KORE radio station

Next was the drive to the Feast site at Redmond-Bend - the countryside along the route was magnificent and all that I imagined it to be - absolutely stunning. The documentaries and books came alive for me and I took a number of photographs. Similarly the drive to Portland airport from Bend-Redmond after the Feast was very scenic.

At the Feast Pastor Larry Walker (Feast Coordinator) and I exchanged gifts - he gave me a picture frame that he had made for me from rough cut cedar that was part of the wall of the meeting room at Belknap Springs when the Feast was kept there during the 1940s! The frame represents an important part of our history and I shall treasure it! Mr Walker and I have been in communication since 1995 and met in Sydney in 1996 - so it was wonderful meeting up with him again after all that time.

The Feast fellowship, sermons and activities were also terrific.

Whilst at the Feast I met Shirley Nickels (wife of deceased Richard Nickels) for the second time ever. Richard and I had been in contact since 1976 or 1977! We only met once but spent a lot of time on the phone and exchanged hundreds of e-mails every year – in fact on an almost daily basis. His website is still online at www.giveshare.org and a public presentation I made honouring him and his researches may be downloaded from here: [PowerPoint Presentation in honour of Richard Nickels](#)

At the Feast I met a lot of wonderful people and we will keep in touch. I talked to a number of folk and they or people they knew had good memories of HWA and the early church.

At the Feast I stayed with members who are mighty fine Christian men and we enjoyed some very good Biblical conversations. For me, a Feast is spiritual, not a holiday, so have said for so many years that we should have voluntary Bible studies each of the days between holy days. We did have one lecture which I enjoyed. I did, however, visit the fascinating High Desert Museum, Mt Batchelor and surrounds and the Warm Springs Indian Museum.

After the Feast I received some lovely e-mails from members such as:

- Mike:

"Glad it worked out and you got what sounds like a grand tour of the campus. Thank you so much for coming to the States. You added so much to many others here in Bend. So glad you came it added to Tim's and my Feast as well ... My mom saw your *Origins of Nations* one in my home the other day and started to read it and really liked it."

- Jeanette:

" ... meeting you was one of the high points of the feast. Just getting to know a personality with a name is nice. I had other high points, such as the talent show, and fellowshiping with special friends. I assume that you are not home yet, while I write this."

I hadn't written you much in the past about Portland, OR, because I didn't think that you would be all that interested, being on the other side of the planet; and Portland is only one little spot in the world, in the scheme of things. But it was one of the first three churches that HWA set up. I originally came from the Midwest of the USA, but I consider Oregon my permanent home, so I am interested in the history of the church right here.

Most of the "living books" are now dead that started out in Eugene in the early 30's. Any that were alive then, were children, and they don't remember a lot, but enough to get tidbits here and there. If you ever want to make up a sheet of question for me to ask others, I can do that for you."

Time spent in Los Angeles

After the Feast, I flew to Los Angeles via Alaska Airlines which enables one to use the internet on board the craft for a fee - I gratefully took up this opportunity. We touched down in Los Angeles and drove a lovely Dodge to the house I was staying in through. From the time of touch down to entering the home I was staying in took 3.5 hours. The entire trip from Bend-Redmond to the house took 11 hours!

The next day (the Sabbath) I attended UCG and had a great time, meeting and chatting with many fine folk - some whom had worked at WCG's HQ for many years. I also met Dr David Lewis after so many years - he was in Australia for the 1998 lost tribes seminar I organised - so it was a highlight meeting up and enjoyed dinner together, sharing 'notes' and information. I was honoured by his statement that my work has inspired his new newsletter on the 'lost' tribes of Israel.

Visit to Ambassador College site

On Tuesday I met up with Duane Abler of Church of God,aic – Peter Nathan & Robert Boraker arranged for him to show me the old Ambassador College campus. I never met him before but remember him from a number of Feast films. He was also very involved in the TV department, filming HWA's funeral etc.

¹ I encountered a similar situation on 24 July 2022 and wrote of this experience in the country town of Goulburn to various ones:

"Greetings,

I was in the country yesterday and came across a large bookshop with 16 rooms in an old heritage building. It is one of the best I have seen.

It was surprising to me that I came across (and purchased for \$5) Andrew Dugger's book 'The Bible Home Instructor.' Though I have several editions of it, I didn't have a hard bound version and decided to add it to the collection.

It is a reprint of the first edition of 1919.

What a place to find a copy of that book! Thought this might be of interest to you." (e-mail dated 25 July 2022)

Duane showed me all around the campus and commented on the various buildings and his wonderful experiences at the College. I wish I could have recorded the entire proceedings.

I took extensive photos of the campus including, of course, the exterior of the famous Auditorium which was locked – you can see them [here](#). We decided to take one last walk past the Auditorium before leaving and noticed a man entering a side door. We wondered if he would let us in to see it – he saw us but then went inside and closed the door. I said a very quick prayer asking God to allow us in if it is His will. As Duane and I walked toward the door the man popped outside and waited for us and we walked toward him, introducing ourselves and asking if we could have a look around – Duane explained his extensive time at AC and that I was a visitor from Australia and that we would love to have a look around inside.

The man, Doug Huse, introduced himself as the General Manager for the site (he is mentioned [here](#) and said we can have a look around unsupervised! Duane knows the building intimately and showed me all around and I took many photographs. I took photos of everything except a couple of snaps of the downstairs area (mother's room, change rooms etc) because my battery ran out. Some photos are of buildings to be torn down so it is important that we keep an historical record of these. I also photographed the first building in Pasadena HWA purchased which became the library (photographs [here](#)).

On the way out we chatted with the General Manager who revealed that he has the file with the entire history of AC performances. He graciously – and unexpectantly - gave me an old AC brochure.

He also revealed, before we left, that 'something told me to let you in to the building'! (one day he will learn that his kindness was actually the answer to prayer). We thanked him for his kindness before leaving.

I might mention here that I was urged to attend AC by several ministers including John White (South Africa - no relative); David House (England); Ken McLeod and Ken Lewis (Australia) and I think John Comino (Australia). I did consider it and browsed the 'Ambassador Catalog'. But I did not see myself as a ministerial sort of person and that AC would not completely cater to my interests.

Anyway, Duane also showed me where the old Imperial School, media office etc were (now demolished and replaced with blocks of units).

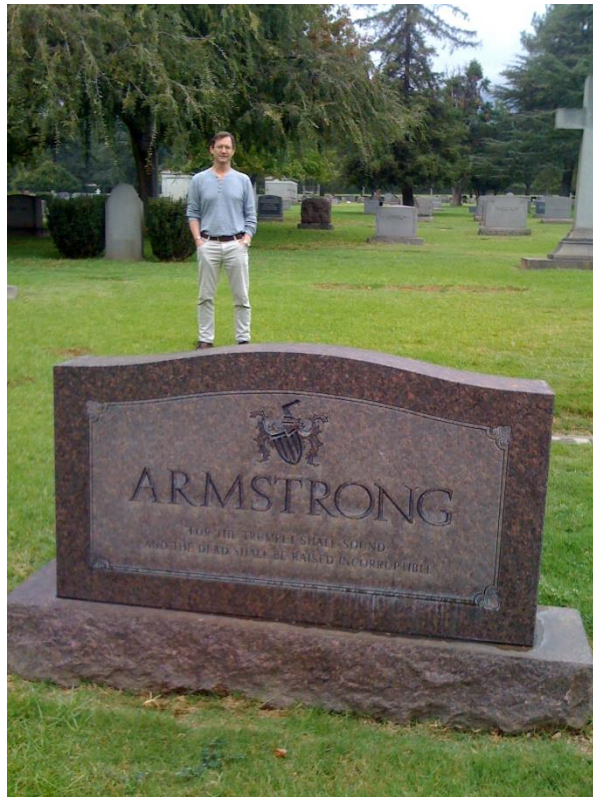
Herbert Armstrong grave site

Then we headed to the Mountview Cemetery to view HWA's grave (next to his is Loma (his wife), Dick (his son) and Eva Wright Armstrong (his mother). Mr Richard Sedliacik's grave (he was the Managing Editor of the Ambassador College Correspondence Course for many years and, I believe, was a member of the Living Church of God more recently) is next to theirs and I believe Mrs Hulme's is nearby too. You can see the photograph's together with a map of how to find this grave site [here](#).

Next we tried to find Herman Hoeh's grave: we went to the office and were given directions by the lady in charge but could not find it. So we went back to the office and the lady rechecked and assured us that the grave was indeed in the sector she had previously advised. I found which were apparently Hoeh's parents' gravestone - still, it was difficult to find his and I almost gave up but said a little prayer – Duane found it moments later! Duane took photos of each of these graves and e-mailed them to me later that day.

Duane provided very good reports about HWA and Hoeh – unlike some who never knew them. What a wonderful day and what a great guy!

The following day (Wed) I went to the fascinating Ronald Reagan library and spent 2 hours there - it was one of the highlights of my life. I doubt that we will ever see another President like him again - see <http://www.reaganfoundation.org/> for further information.



At Herbert W Armstrong's grave site (2011)

I then drove back to the Mountview Cemetery and took several more photos of Hoeh's grave site and surrounding areas (which is close to the entrance) to make it easier to be found for those that would like to visit it out of respect - photographs are available [here](#).

These step-by-step maps how to find HWA's and Hoeh's gravesites. These are available [here](#) and [here](#).

This reminds me that many years ago when I was living in Portsmouth, England and attended the Southampton WCG, I got to know a member who attended AC and who knew Hoeh. I recall him saying to me that 'Dr Hoeh would love to tutor someone like you' and was going to recommend me. Strangely, that was said by another person years later, but I just didn't think AC was for me. However, Hoeh and I did communicate by letter and via telephone conversations. 'Kindred interests' as they say.

Finding the HWA site was more difficult for me without Duane and I went back to the office for directions. As I was walking to the office, the same lady that helped us find the Hoeh site the previous day happened to be driving by and politely asked me if I was still trying to find the Hoeh site. I explained that we had found it but I was now seeking the HWA site. She said to follow her as she knew just where to go! I followed her in my car and took more photos of the graves and surroundings – it was a sunny day so the photos were excellent and it was easier to clean the grass off the grave stones.

I then started driving to find the exit and saw her outside of her vehicle, checking on graves. I waved to her to indicate my gratitude and she waved back.

So, the entire trip was eventful, spiritual and three little prayers were answered.

Radio Church of God and Herbert W Armstrong Historical Trail online (2011 visit)

Part I - [1930s](#)

Part II - [1940s onwards](#)

Part III – [References; Relevant Maps](#)

Part IV - [Grave sites of the Pioneers](#)

Visit to the Historical Sites & Churches of God Dec 2017 – Jan 2018

In late November 2017 I undertook a further trip to the USA to visit family, enjoy the tourist sites and undertaken a further tour to the Radio Church of God/Worldwide Church of God historical sites. This trip was integrated into visits to the various Church of God groups that I am familiar with. Unfortunately, due to time constraints, it was not possible to visit each of these friendly groups.

The trip started off in a rather interesting fashion having 'bumped into' a Church member who was on the same flight as me but on the way to Central America via Los Angeles. In Los Angeles we met up for lunch a few days later.

Fellowship and more fellowship

A member I had never met before picked me up from the airport and I found out that he worked with Herman L Hoeh for some time in the 1970s. Later that day he took me to Ambassador Campus of which I took a number of [photographs](#) and [video](#) clips. This included a part of the campus I had not seen before. That day I enjoyed lunch with several members. During the entire trip that lasted until the end of January I enjoyed brunches, lunches and dinners with members from a number of Church groups and fellowships (the latter including the Bible Sabbath Association and Genesis Research Projects).

During my stay in Los Angeles I again visited the Herbert W Armstrong and Herman Hoeh [grave sites](#).



Herman L Hoeh's grave

Although my initial plans were for a bit of driving and mostly flying between destinations, in the end it became much more convenient to drive. So the driving took me from Los Angeles to Seattle; then via Utah and Colorado to Texas, finally ending the interstate driving in Raleigh, North Carolina. This was followed by a 7 hour flight to San Diego via Chicago. After a few days in San Diego I drove to Los Angeles prior to the flight back to Australia.

In all 16 States were visited and dozens of members met including those I had not seen for years; others I had been in touch with for a very long time but never met; and those that I had never met or known in any fashion. What a wonderful experience it was - so positive, uplifting and the people so friendly.

Church services at each location was great and I spent time fellowshiping until the end – usually among the last to depart (only one service was missed due to service time and venue having changed).

Visits and historical sites

The trip from Los Angeles to San Francisco included a stop at the offices of the [Christian Biblical Church of God](#) followed a few days later spending time in the quaint town of Eugene.

At Eugene I visited a number of sites and former sites (ie the original buildings have subsequently been demolished).

Then up the mountains to [Belknap Springs](#) where the Radio Church of God observed the Feast of Tabernacles from 1945 to 1951. I notice a little hamlet on the way called Nimrod (there is also Ninkasi Brewing in Eugene named after the goddess of beer and also a café named Petra in Seattle)!

The mountains were amongst the most scenic I experience given the glorious forests and lovely, soft snow. It wasn't all that cold and quite bearable compared to my later experiences.

Later I met up with Calvin and Barbara Burrell of the Church of God (seventh day) who showed me their [meeting hall](#) and the [house](#) that Andrew Dugger used to live in across the road from the hall. Apparently on work days, Dugger used to walk across the road and give Bible studies to the congregation right after finishing work.

Benjamin Light, an United Church of God elder met up and showed me some of the sites later that afternoon around Salem ([church hall site](#) and former [home site](#) and [KSLM radio station](#)).

Then I was off to Portland and once again met up with brethren and John & Lois Lemley of the Church of God (seventh day). As usual they were so hospitable and giving. Their sharing of [information](#) on Alex and Andrew Dugger as well as providing a copy of Gilbert Cranmer's [Autobiography](#).

Just outside of Seattle I visited the [Bible Sabbath Association's office](#) – having been in touch with them since around 1976 or 1977 and having subscribed to their *Sabbath Sentinel* for many years, it was a special historical experience for me.

It brought back tremendous memories of the interactions between [Richard Nickels](#) and myself over many years (1977/78-2006).



Belknap Springs resort

This was followed by a long drive over the icy mountains to Idaho where I met up with friends and had a look around the exterior of the [Church of God \(seventh day\) Meridian](#) that I have been in contact with since my teens or early twenties (it was too early for the offices to be open and for me to visit).

The next stage was a long drive to Salt Lake City – the main focus of the trip was to meet up with family there. Then on to Denver to visit brethren at the [Church of God \(seventh day\) head office](#). I was shown around the facilities, the printing press area and of course the room containing the valuable historical archives of literature and records dating from the mid-1800s. This included the [Hope of Israel](#) published in 1863 and successor [periodicals](#). Subsequently, many issues of these publications and their predecessor, *The Messenger of Truth*, have been located and uploaded [here](#).

The next stage of the trip took me to Oklahoma City where I visited the [Philadelphia Church of God headquarters](#).

Later that day I found the graveyard which has [Greenberry George Rupert's family vault](#) which contains his coffin.



Rupert family vault

Then it was off to Texas where [Dixon Cartwright](#) showed me around [Big Sandy campus](#) and the [Garner Ted and Shirley Armstrong's graves](#) as well as the offices/meeting halls for [UCG, GCI, LCG, Church of God \(Big Sandy\)](#). I also visited the [Church of God \(a Worldwide Association\)](#) head office and non-aligned researchers.

Also, as part of this tour of many Church of God groups, a visit was made to the office complex for the [Intercontinental Church of God](#) and was give a 'grand tour' of the facilities but missed seeing Mark Armstrong due to his attendance at a funeral. Later I drove past the offices of the [Church of God, International](#).

A few days later I drove to the [Church of the Great God's offices](#) but did not visit them; but later that day I spent a considerable amount of time at the [Living Church of God offices](#) followed that evening and the next day with senior staff.

My return to Los Angeles for a few days prior to the flight to Australia included a visit to the theological Archives bookshop which as been relocated from the location that Herman L Hoeh used to frequent. The bookshop contains an impressive number of technical and scholarly works.

Herbert W Armstrong and Radio Church of God

NB: various maps locating these sites can be found [here](#) (thanks to Ben Light for his assistance). Also, some of the commentary below is from Benjamin Light (2017) and Rex Sexton (2011).

YEAR/DATE	PLACE	LOCATION DETAILS/ADDRESS	COMMENT & PHOTOGRAPHS	REFERENCE
1927	Hinson Memorial Baptist Church (2011 and 2017)	1137 Southeast 20th Ave., Portland	<p>This is where HWA chose to be baptised. Photographs in the appendices and at www.friendsofsabbath.org</p> <p>“But I was still puzzled about water baptism. My parents, and ancestors for 200 years and more, had been “Quakers.” I had been brought up in that church, though I didn’t know much about what they believed. I did now that they did NOT believe in water baptism.</p> <p>So I next studied that question diligently, in the Bible. I went to four preachers for help, but relied solely on the Bible for final decision. A Seventh-Day Adventist preacher seemed coldly legalistic, lacking spiritual warmth. A Church of God (seventh-day, Stanberry, Missouri) preacher didn’t want to be bothered and was insulting. A Quaker minister was friendly, but had to admit, finally, that he himself questioned his church’s doctrine on this point and only went along with it because other “holy men of God” (as <i>he</i> called them) in his church did. A Baptist minister had the best and clearest explanation, and was warm and friendly and, I felt, more spiritual in a sane and sensible way. So I asked him to baptize me, not into his church, but into Christ. For this I had to obtain permission from the rather august and dignified Board of the Church. On being baptized I <i>knew</i> God then and there gave me HIS HOLY SPIRIT!” (“Personal from the Editor,” <i>Good News</i>, August 1969:4)</p>	

YEAR/DATE	PLACE	LOCATION DETAILS/ADDRESS	COMMENT & PHOTOGRAPHS	REFERENCE
1926/27	Portland Multnomah County Public Library (2011 and 2017)	801 Southwest 10th Avenue, Portland	This is where HWA did his initial research on the existence of God, proof of the seventh-day Sabbath and basic doctrines.	“At the same time, I found, in the Portland Public Library, many scientific works either directly on evolution, or as a teaching in textbooks on biology, paleontology and geology. Also I found books by scientists and doctors of philosophy puncturing many holes in the evolutionary hypothesis.” (<i>Autobiography</i> , vol 1, ch 16)
1931	Near Jefferson	Unknown	Ordination of HWA occurred in this vicinity. This is how it is described: “I shall never forget that moment of my ordination. The meeting was being held outdoors. I do not remember where—except it was in the general rural area of Jefferson. I do not remember other circumstances. But I do remember the ordination itself. It was one of those once-in-a-lifetime experiences like being married, and being baptized. Only this seemed to me to be the most momentous event of my entire life. All the brethren—as many as could get their hands through to my head—laid their hands on me—on my head, my shoulders, my chest and my back.”	<i>Autobiography</i> , vol 1, ch 16
1931	Home in Salem (2017)	1142 Hall Street, Salem where HWA lived in	1142 Hall Street is where the Armstrong’s lived when he received his ministerial credentials but has been demolished and is vacant land.	<i>Autobiography</i> , vol 1, ch 28

YEAR/DATE	PLACE	LOCATION DETAILS/ADDRESS	COMMENT & PHOTOGRAPHS	REFERENCE
1933	Jeans Schoolhouse, Veneta (2017)	This is now a private residence.	<p>It was where HWA held an evangelistic campaign in 1933.</p> <p>The school house was a private residence for 30 or 40 years. The site where it was is at the "T" junction intersection of Ellmaker Road and Jeans Road. Where Ellmaker ends, the schoolhouse was about 60 yards west of the intersection on the north side of Jeans Road. Take Hwy 126 west out of Eugene past the first part of the south end of Fern Ridge Reservoir and look for Ellmaker on your right. Ellmaker is about a half mile long and ends at Jeans Road.</p> <p>According to Benjamin Light, "somewhere between June of 2014 and May of 2016 according to Google Earth Satellite Imagery – the schoolhouse was torn down."</p>	<i>Autobiography</i> , vol 1, ch. 30. See photograph here
1933 (Nov) – 1935 (Jan)	Alvadore school, Alvadore (2017)	15 miles NW of Eugene. 8-10 miles northwest of Eugene and which is falling down (near Decker Nursery (90808 B Street)	<p>The site of HWA's third campaign and small congregation. The building has since been demolished.</p> <p>Alvadore School – located on the north side of 8th Street (across from where the Decker's Nursery complex used to be) - about one block west of the intersection of 8th St. and B St. in Alvadore. A new house sits in what would have been the back yard of the school building. There is an Alvadore Christian Church nearby</p> <p>When you enter Alvadore – you'll see the highway gently curve to the right – there is a country store on your left. Right past that Country Store is 8th Street – take a left on 8th and drive down to "B Street" on the right side of the road is a Church.</p>	<i>Autobiography</i> , vol 1, ch. 33
1933	Harrisburg, Oregon	This is a small town on US Hwy 99E immediately north of where the highway goes over the bridge across the Willamette River on the way south to Junction City and Eugene.	This town was the site of an evangelistic campaign that Herbert Armstrong conducted shortly before the one at the Firbutte School.	<i>Autobiography</i> , vol 1, ch. 29

YEAR/DATE	PLACE	LOCATION DETAILS/ADDRESS	COMMENT & PHOTOGRAPHS	REFERENCE
1933	Firbutte School (2011 2017)	8 miles west of Eugene, now under the shallow side of the Fern Ridge Reservoir on the Old Elmira Road— now called Royal Road. You can see where the roadbed going into the east wetland of the reservoir.	<p>The Firbutte School was torn down in 1947 or 1948 when they were finishing the flood control dam on the Long Tom River. “In 2001, during a serious drought, I did walk out to the site on Coyote Flats by following the remaining roadbed at the end of the pavement on Royal Road. That’s as close as you can get to the site these days.”</p> <p>“Firbutte School – the school building was taken down just prior to 1948 because that year its location in a rural area called Coyote Flats was inundated seasonally by the Fern Ridge Reservoir which was and is a flood control dam. The school building was disassembled and used apparently to build small homes in the area of Firbutte Road (east of the reservoir and north of Royal Road. The closest you can get to the location is to drive from Eugene to the end of Royal Road which is a parking area for hikers, hunters and fishermen who walk out the path made by the gravel base of the original roadbed through the marshland that borders the reservoir itself to get to the water line. In 2001 during a severe drought the reservoir never filled up with spring run-off and I walked east on the Royal Road roadbed for over a mile and a half to the location of the Firbutte School. From old maps in the city (and possibly available online), the school had been located a hundred yards from one of the road intersections on Coyote Flats. If there is water backed up in the reservoir, then you’ll not be able to walk out that far. However by hiking a little distance west of the parking area at the end of the pavement on Royal Road, you’ll be able to truly get a feel for the area where Mr. A’s first evangelistic meetings took place.”</p> <p>“The site of Firbutte School is located under the waters of Fern Ridge Reservoir at the end of Royal Road. The site would have been about 1 to 1.5 miles in in an area known as Coyote Flats.</p> <p>“The easiest way to get there – if you continue down Royal Road past the photos you took of the corner of Royal Road and Firbutte Road you will dead end into a small park. Continuing down the trail will lead to the reservoir (or some marshy bits) That’s the closest you can get without scuba gear.”</p> <p>HWA also makes mention of his prayer rock on pages 412, 424.</p>	<i>Autobiography</i> , vol 1, ch. 29

YEAR/DATE	PLACE	LOCATION DETAILS/ADDRESS	COMMENT & PHOTOGRAPHS	REFERENCE
1933	Church hall, Salem (2017)	The little white church on 17th and Chemeketa, Salem where the church congregations met for a short period of time	This was before certain ones took the congregation out from under him and they returned to Scrael.	<i>Autobiography</i> , vol 1, ch. 29
193?	Grant St. house in Eugene (2017)	Grant St	<p>Owned by HWA at one time until selling it to fund the Work.</p> <p>“Grant St house in Eugene – If memory serves, the address was 1570 Grant St. The street is accessed off of West 13th Ave. on the west side of Eugene. We looked for the house some years ago and found what we think was the location, but likely not the actual house. However, there are several houses on Grant that look quite like the picture of the house in the HWA Autobiography. Obviously, they were built by the same builder many decades ago.”</p> <p>“We had no way of confirming the address ... There were no houses in that section that matched the picture in the Autobiography – so if that is the location, the house has been moved or demolished and rebuilt.</p> <p>Impossible to verify the lot without contacting the county and confirming ownership records going far enough back. It's also possible that the house was one of the houses that was in the area where the walking path is now and was torn down.</p> <p>So, unfortunately - Impossible to verify for certain without further research with the City of Eugene.”</p>	
1933	Milas Helms farm	Location near Jefferson on the south bank of the Santiam River just west of I-5 across from the rest area on the north bank of the river	This is where the miracle of crops not destroyed by a spring flood occurred	<i>Autobiography</i> , vol 1, ch. 27 & 28

YEAR/DATE	PLACE	LOCATION DETAILS/ADDRESS	COMMENT & PHOTOGRAPHS	REFERENCE
193?	Amtrak Station (2011)	W 5th Ave, Eugene	Where Mr. A. made many "shirt tail shoots" catching the train to travel or go to Pasadena to make broadcasts on the higher quality recording equipment found near Hollywood	
1934 (Oct)	4 th Ave house in Eugene (2011 2017)	??60 W. 4th St in Eugene	<p>One of the many places they rented after selling their house in a neighborhood several blocks west of the Amtrak rail station</p> <p>"We could never find the house number in Mr. A's writings, but he did say that they rented an upstairs apartment in the house. At the edge of downtown Eugene drive or walk down 4th from Charnelton St. to Blair Blvd. You will see a number of homes from that era which clearly have upstairs apartments. It's possible that the actual house was taken down when the ramp onto I-105 was built. But at least you can see the neighborhood. Remember that it was close to the Rail Station (now Amtrak Station) which is one block north of 5th Ave. at the end of Willamette St. The Autbio. speaks often of him hurrying to the train station in one of his "shirrtail shoots" to go somewhere.</p> <p>Grant and 4th St. in Eugene are drivable near where the railroad goes through. I never had the exact address, just a description of a house with upstairs apartment- there are several of the correct architecture from the 1920s to 30s that could be the location. The 105 freeway spur was built right through that area years ago. The 8th Street location is findable, but the church building is long gone. Last I looked it was a landscape yard with barkchips stored where the "church" building used to be (it was a small house converted to a meeting place. If memory serves, it on 8th St. between 14th and 15th Avenues on the west side of town."</p> <p>"Similar to the above – had no way of confirming officially and found the same locations as you did however, came across a co-worker letter from 1934 [20 Dec 1934] lists the address as 560 W 4th - if that's the case... it was torn down when the 105 was built according to Google Maps.</p> <p>Just no way to confirm for certain aside from 4th Avenue in the vicinity of the 105."</p>	<p>"But by late March I had rented a house on West 4th. I think the rent was about \$7 per month. I had arranged for meetings to start in the Old Masonic Temple on Seventh Avenue." (<i>Autobiography</i>, vol 1, ch. 32)</p> <p>HWA lived here according to his Credentials of Discipleship Here is his Ordination Certificate</p>

YEAR/DATE	PLACE	LOCATION DETAILS/ADDRESS	COMMENT & PHOTOGRAPHS	REFERENCE
1934 (Jan)	KORE radio station (2011)	Located in 2080 Laura Street, Springfield (near Eugene)	This was the station that broadcast Mr. A's first radio messages.	<i>Autobiography</i> , vol 1, ch. 30
1934	First Plain Truth published		Click to download a copy	<i>Autobiography</i> , vol 1, ch. 31
1934	The Hampton bldg	Corner of 6th & Willamette, Eugene	Office where first <i>Plain Truth</i> was published	<i>Autobiography</i> , vol 1, ch. 36
1934 (Dec)	Radio station - KSLM 345 (2017)	Court St, Salem	<p>"By December that first year of broadcasting -- 1934 -- Christ OPENED A SECOND DOOR. His time had come for the broadcast to leap to Portland, with ten times them potential listeners. In fact, a hook-up was opened to us for two additional stations, KXL, Portland, and KSLM, Salem -- both at that time only 100-watt stations. The cost was to be \$50 per month."</p> <p>While it still broadcasts on 1390 AM, its call letters are now KZGD.</p> <p>"KSLM call letters are not valid anymore. Below is a weblink to where the station tower was located at one time in 1995. The station now goes by the KZGD call letters ,and still broadcasts at 1390 AM. A link to the station history will follow this one.</p> <p>http://www.deq.state.or.us/.../Output/FPCcontroller.ashx...</p> <p>Web Documents for KSLM Radio Station DEQ.STATE.OR.US</p> <p>https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/KZGD KZGD - Wikipedia</p> <p>KZGD (1390 AM) is an American radio station licensed to serve Salem, Oregon, United States."</p>	<i>Autobiography</i> , vol 1, ch. 36

YEAR/DATE	PLACE	LOCATION DETAILS/ADDRESS	COMMENT & PHOTOGRAPHS	REFERENCE
			<p>In the 1930's KSLM was broadcasting from 345 Court Street NE, it is now a Martial Arts Academy upstairs from a Dairy Lunch place that's been there since the late 20's.</p> <p>In 1937 KSLM moved to 343 Court Street NE, which is right next door.</p> <p>In 1939, they moved to 633 Front Street NE, which is now a part of an industrial area.</p> <p>Then eventually moved to West Salem where the tower stood until they decommissioned it.</p>	
1935	The Multnomah Hotel (2017)	319 Southwest Pine St., Portland	HWA broadcast from the KXL radio station that was there. It is now the Embassy Suites hotel.	<i>Autobiography</i> , vol 1, ch. 36
193?	Scrael Hill church building (2017)	Near Jefferson at the top of the hill on Scrael Hill Road (COG7 met there. HWA often preached there)	<p>Church of God (seventh day) met there and HWA also used to preach there.</p> <p>The Scrael Hill building is still standing but is now a house now and moved a few yards and oriented for a valley view on the new foundation--but the building is still recognizable.</p> <p>“Go north on I-5 past the Albany exits a few miles to the Jefferson exit. Head east on the Jefferson Hwy (also called Hwy 99E, and state highway 164). A couple miles from the freeway (and well before you get to Jefferson) you’ll come to the intersection with Scrael Hill Road. There is probably a flashing red light there and you’ll make a right turn up and over the railroad tracks, then drive up to the crest of Scrael Hill itself, the former church building will be on your right. It is an house now and appears to have been shifted onto a new foundation, presumably to take advantage of the valley view to the north and west, but it is clearly identifiable as the original church building in the pictures in the Autobiography.”</p> <p>“Directions to left are accurate. The railroad tracks are close to Jefferson Highway (99-E / OR-164). Right on Scrael and just up the hill on the right is the building. 38684 Scrael Hill Rd. NE.”</p>	<i>Autobiography</i> , vol 1, chs 17, 23

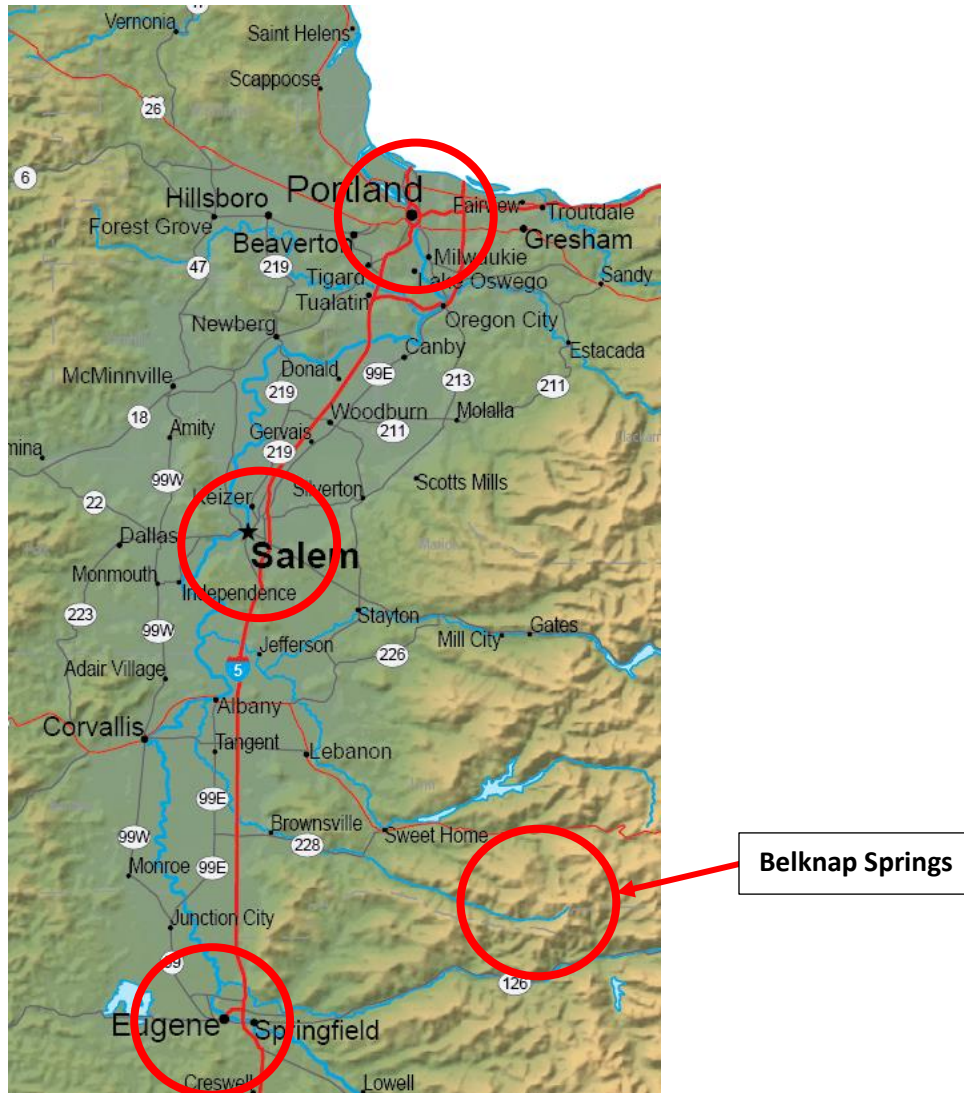
YEAR/DATE	PLACE	LOCATION DETAILS/ADDRESS	COMMENT & PHOTOGRAPHS	REFERENCE
1935 to 1959	8th Street in Eugene - site of the first church building (2011 2017)	8 th St. just a few yards west of the intersection of 8 th and Taylor St.	<p>Site of the “little church way out on 8th St (church building in Eugene for many years—from 1935 to 1959) where the first church building where the Jeans, Firbutte and Alvadore brethren consolidated to form the Eugene congregation.</p> <p>8th St in Eugene (site of the first church building) – the location is about two lots width west of the 8th Street intersection with Taylor St. on the north side of 8th. When I lived there before 2005 a landscaping company owned the location and stored bark mulch where the house had stood. From Google maps satellite view it looks like there are newer buildings at the location now. However, if you drive or walk a few blocks east on 8th, you’ll see several long and narrow houses which look just like the one that the Church met in back in the day (again, probably the same builder built them).</p> <p>“The only information we had was what you had – approximately 2 lots in from 8th and Taylor. Don't know if that means the house that is next to the Apartments, or if that means the place was torn down to build the apartments. It seems like the description implies the apartment complexes.”</p>	<p>“On June first, 1935, The Church of God at Eugene, Oregon, held its first service in the new building, consolidating the three groups into one church.” <i>Autobiography</i>, vol 1, chs 34 (new church bldg at end of W 8th Ave., Eugene)</p>
1935 (Autumn)	Site of the first “Home Office” (2011)	Corner of 6 th and Willamette (now the Hult Performing Arts Center)	Downtown Eugene – where the first two church offices were rented.	<p>“He said he had a vacant room in the Hampton Building, across from the Post Office (a new Post Office has been built since) on the southwest corner of Sixth and Willamette. However, he would have to charge me \$5 per month office rent.” <i>Autobiography</i>, vol 1, ch 34</p>

YEAR/DATE	PLACE	LOCATION DETAILS/ADDRESS	COMMENT & PHOTOGRAPHS	REFERENCE
1934-1935	Old Masonic Temple (2017)	47 NW. 8 th St near 7th Ave and Willamette, Eugene	<p>Old Masonic Temple where evangelistic meetings were held. It has since been demolished.</p> <p>“Following the evangelistic meetings in the old Masonic Temple in downtown Eugene, April and May, 1934, I had retained for some time, as mentioned above, the use of one of the smaller rooms as an office. I do not remember just when, but later -- probably early autumn, 1935 -- Mr. Frank Chambers, owner of the building (and somewhere near half of all downtown Eugene, it was rumored), told me he had a tenant for the entire building, and I would have to move.” Meetings held here as well as temporary office”</p>	<i>Autobiography</i> , vol 1, ch 32
193?	Second, larger office in Eugene (2011)	May be the current Odd Fellows Hall on Charnelton Street between 12 th and 13 th .	Second, larger office in Eugene.	
1937	KWJJ (2017)	622 SW Salmon St, Portland	Where HWA broadcast from in Portland.	<i>Autobiography</i> , vol 1, ch. 36
1945-51	Belknap Springs resort (2017)	55 or so miles up the McKenzie River highway east of Eugene; on Hwy 126 a few miles down the hill toward Eugene from the Hwy 20 junction near Santiam Pass). www.belknaphotsprings.com/	First Feast site with other members (HWA and his wife kept the Feast days privately for around 14 years)	

YEAR/DATE	PLACE	LOCATION DETAILS/ADDRESS	COMMENT & PHOTOGRAPHS	REFERENCE
1950s	Belknap Springs and Big Sandy		Leroy Neff's private photograph collection here	
	Ambassador College (2011 2017)	Pasadena	Photographs by others here	
1986 (died)	HWA Grave site (2011 2017)		Information here Photographs here	
2004 (died)	Herman L Hoeh Grave site (2011 2017)		Information here Photographs here	

Appendix Trail Maps





Appendix

Grave Sites of the Pioneers & Wives

In accordance with Rom. 12:10; 13:7; Heb 13:7; Luke 10:16; II Tim 2:1-2.

Alonzo Trevier Jones <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/56958205/alonzo-trevier-jones>
Andrew Ferguson Dugger <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/22080055/andrew-ferguson-dugger>
Andrew Nugent Dugger <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/24410923/andrew-nugent-dugger>
Basil Wolverton <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/45296753/basil-wolverton>
Benjamin Lee Rea <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/70939907/benjamin-lee-rea>
Dibar Krikor Apartian <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/95897355/dibar-krikor-apartian>
Emma Runcorn <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/97488984/emma-l.-runcorn>
Garner Ted Armstrong <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/7871155/garner-ted-armstrong>
Gerald Waterhouse <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/170074105/gerald-d.-waterhouse>
Gilbert Cranmer <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/73571981/gilbert-w-cranmer>
Greenberry George Rupert <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/51472020/greenberry-george-rupert>
Harold Jackson <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/17908757/harold-l.-jackson>
Herbert W Armstrong <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/8359/herbert-w.-armstrong> (Mrs Armstrong is buried alongside him)
Hermann Louis Hoeh <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/17245494/herman-l.-hoeh>
Isabell Hoeh <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/86009833/isabell-f.-hoeh>
John Kiesz <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/68218332/john-kiesz>
Kenneth Calvin Herrmann <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/13725164/kenneth-calvin-herrmann>
Leroy Neff <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/124333140/lester-leroy-neff>

Raymond F McNair <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/189863319/raymond-f-mcnair>

Richard Armstrong <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/7871079/richard-david-armstrong>

Richard Charles Nickels <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/188584384/richard-charles-nickels>

Richard Rice <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/136591834/richard-james-rice>

Rick Sherrod <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/22503255/ricky-lee-sherrod>

Robert Edmund Fahey <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/188603973/robert-edmund-fahey>

Roderick C Meredith <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/179497946/roderick-c-meredith>

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*The Herbert W Armstrong
and
Radio Church of God
Historical Trail & Photo Album*



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