

Kelley House Museum presents

**September 23, 2007**

**3:00 PM**

*A Sunday Afternoon with...*

**Local Lore & Tales of the Town**

*The MacKericher Family*

In 1864 Duncan MacKericher (spelled correctly with one "r") and his wife, Jessie, came from Canada to the Fort Bragg area establishing a farm in Cleone that is now part of the MacKerricher State Park. Jessie is reputed to have named the town of Cleone from the Greek word meaning "gracious" or "beautiful".

The MacKerichers left Quebec, where Duncan's father had emigrated in 1820 from the Glen Lyon area of Scotland. They came to California via New York, being taken through the dangerous Civil War zone by the U.S.S. Constitution. After arriving in Panama, they went overland by rail, then took a ship to San Francisco, where they caught a schooner to Mendocino. Bad weather forced them to land in Eureka.



MacKericher family at their home in Fort Bragg 1909.

Duncan worked in the mill for two years and then worked with Indian Agent E.J. Whipple on the reservation near Ten Mile. When the Indians were forcibly removed to Round Valley, the MacKerichers stayed and bought Rancho de la Laguna. About half the Indians remained to work for the MacKerichers on the farm and dairy. Money from the sale of their butter in SF was used to help the Indians. The farm grew plentiful potatoes and was famous for its draft horses.



Son, Edwin MacKericher ran a store in Fort Bragg (where Sears is now) that burned in the 1906 earthquake.

**Faith Graham, the great granddaughter of this pioneering Scottish family, will share stories of her ancestors and how their land became a State Park.**

*This is the twenty ninth in a series of local history conversations taking place the 4th Sunday of each month from March to October at Kelley House Museum in Mendocino.*

*Suggested donation \$7 (\$5 for KH Museum members) For information call 937-5791*