



Much is known about the history of Charles and Ellen Bradshaw Fox. Charles A. Fox was born May 14, 1883, in Phoenix, Maricopa County, Arizona. His Mother and Father were Charles Holden Fox and Mary Ann Elizabeth Campbell. Ellen Cedairean Bradshaw Fox was born January 12, 1887 in Minersville, Beaver County, Utah. Her Mother and Father were Samuel Bradshaw and Alice Sophrona Wood.

Charles and Ellen were married April 24, 1913 in Dillon, Beaverhead County, Montana. The above photo was taken at their home located in Minersville, Beaver County, Utah and probably was taken around the early 1940's.

Charles A. Fox's was known to be in Oklahoma in 1900. The 1900 census lists him as being 17 years old at that time and attending school. He was living with his Father on a homestead in Stroud, Oklahoma. His mother had died in 1888 when they lived in Arizona. Sometime after 1900 Charles took up the occupation of miner. Robert, Charles's brother, had come to Utah and

started work in the mines around the Minersville, Utah area. It is surmised that this is what brought Charles to the area. Robert had married Lillian Bradshaw (Ellen's sister) June 24, 1903 in Minersville, Beaver County, Utah. Robert's history will be covered in a later chapter.

At this point it is necessary to tell the reader some of Ellen's history. Ellen was born in Minersville where her parents were some of the original pioneers of the area. She grew up in that area to young womanhood. When she was 17 years old she had married Ernest Elbert Stewart, December 22, 1904 in Beaver, Beaver County, Utah. Ernest was a miner and worked in the mines around that area. They had five children: Zelma Margaret Stewart born November 19, 1905 in Salt Lake City, Salt Lake County, Utah, Ralph Edward Stewart born December 13, 1906 in Minersville, Beaver County, Utah, Leland Elbert Stewart born September 15, 1908 in Minersville, Beaver County, Utah, Samuel Stewart born February 20, 1910 in Minersville, Beaver County, Utah, Merle Stewart born May 3, 1912 in Ely, Nevada. Samuel died shortly after birth (February 22, 1910) as did Merle Stewart (May 5, 1912). More details of these family members is provided in their histories.



This photo is of the Samuel Bradshaw family. Those in the photo are from left to right bottom row: Ellen Bradshaw Fox, father Samuel Bradshaw, Lillian Bradshaw, mother Alice S. Wood Bradshaw holding William Ira (Bill) Bradshaw, Back Row Sarah Bradshaw and Lucy Bradshaw.

The mining town of Frisco, Utah (now a Ghost town) lies west of Milford, Utah. Silver ore was discovered here in 1875. The town of Frisco soon followed and was named Frisco after the San Francisco mountains where the mine is located. A smelter was built here and charcoal ovens were built to make fuel for it (see Samuel Bradshaw History). The town had 23 saloons. Gun fights and killings were common. Water was scarce here and had to be hauled in. In 1880 the railroad built to the town. The population of Frisco was around 6000 people. There was a hospital, hotels, churches, school, news paper and many stores. In 1885 the mine caved in and the town soon all but died. (No one was killed in the cave in). Up to the time of the cave in, the mine had produced 54 million dollars worth of ore. A few people stayed and dug new shafts but most was gone and only a couple stores stayed open. The mine made another 20 million dollars by 1913. By 1920 everyone had moved away.

Sometime around 1912 Ellen was living in Frisco with her children. According to the story told me by my Mother, she was abandoned by Ernest and made a living for herself and her children by doing laundry and cleaning house for people. She did whatever she could do to find work to feed herself and the kids. She divorced Ernest about 1912. Sometime about this time she met Charles Arthur Fox, my Grandfather. He left there to work in a mine in Gilmore, Idaho.

A road leading south from Salmon at the junction of highway 93 in northern Idaho will lead through the towns of Tendoy, Lemhi, Leadore and then to Gilmore. Mostly farming communities, the early settlers were colonizing Mormons with the exception of Gilmore, which was a mining town. Attempts to mill the ore locally failed. Freight wagons and mule teams were employed to haul ore to a smelter at Nicholia. All operations at Gilmore ceased when the smelter burned down. In 1910, the railroad reached Gilmore and ore was shipped by rail to Montana. Prosperity lasted until the depression years of 1929 when all major mines were closed for good. The closing of the mines forced the railroad to remove the tracks and Gilmore became a ghost town. The hotel, which hasn't had a guest since, is still in fairly good condition given the passage of time.

Charles sent word that if Ellen would bring her children to Gilmore they could get married and live there. He sent money for the railway tickets. This she did, traveling by train to get there. She probably boarded the train at Milford and traveled to meet him at Gilmore. They were married, as stated before in Dillon, Montana. It probably was necessary to go to Dillon as it was the nearest town with a preacher. While living there they had two children: James Arthur Fox, born August 20, 1914, and Robert Edward Lee Fox, born August, 1917. Sometime between August 1917 and January, 1919 they left that area and settled on a farm in Paragonah, Iron County, Utah. They sharecropped this farm as Charles didn't own it. Investigation into the family history relates that several relatives of Ellen's lived in this area and it is possible that they farmed a relatives property. My Mother said it was located somewhere in the vicinity of where the freeway sits now. While living here they had four more children: Elveretta Fox, born January 14, 1919 (died January 15, 1919), Mary Alice Eva Fox (my Mother), born April 11, 1920, Norma Mable Fox, born May 31, 1923, and Shirley Bell Fox, born May 31, 1926. The cause of death for Elveretta was "Premature birth" and she is buried in the Parowan City Cemetery, Parowan, Utah. The grave location is 14-09-08.

Alice (Mom) talked about this period and said it was a terribly hard time as the depression was in full swing. They had something to eat when others didn't because of the farm. An audio file was made that is Jim and Alice Booth talking about their lives during the Depression. A written version of the file is contained in her history.

The Parowan Times Newspaper listed an article dated May 16, 1930 stating the following,

“Mr. And Mrs. Charles Fox who have been residing in this valley for several years, moved to Minersville where they expect to stay”. Details stated in a letter(see Forest Francis Fox history) indicate that they bought a home there. The location of this home is not known to this author.

The period of 1934 to 1935 found that several of the their children and step children had moved to Tooele, Tooele County, Utah to work in the Bauer Mine. Charles and Ellen followed them and purchased a home in Tooele at 320 West Vine Street. This home sits back in a lane from West Vine and is was converted to a wood shop in 1964 by James J Booth. My dad said that Charles and Ellen actually had another home located at approximately 132 South 100 West.



Future research might provide the correct address.

Several photos of this home are available from Jim and Alice's collection. A few are presented here.

This photo is , from left to right : Lucy Fox, James P. Fox, their daughter Pauline Fox, their son Paul Fox, and Henry Fox . Lucy Booth Fox was James P. Fox's wife. Their daughter and son were twins born May 30, 1915 in Higgins, Texas. Henry was a brother to James and Charles Fox. Notice the home in the background. This photo was probably taken during the summer of 1936.



This photo was taken at the same time as the photo above. From left to right Charles Arthur Fox, James P. Fox and Henry Fox. Charles was probably 51 years old, James 48 years old and Henry 61 years old.



From left to right: Alice Fox Booth, Norma Fox Fairbourne, Charles A. Fox, James A. Fox. This photo was taken before Charles built the back bedroom on the home. Notice the old car sitting in place of the bedroom. The child sitting by the garage is unidentified. In later years there was a large elm tree in this location. It has since died and was taken out. Several elm trees were on the east side of the property. They are not evident in this photo. They have been taken out also. The only plant that is still on the property that I think was there during this period is a wild rose bush on the east side by the back door to the home.



This photo is Norma Fox. She is standing in front of the home. She was probably around 18 years old.



This young lady was Pauline Fox, daughter of James P. Fox. Notice the home in the background. This photo was taken east of the home at the location of a home Jim and Alice Booth rented when they first came to Tooele. This was probably taken sometime during the summer of 1936.





This photo was taken on the front steps of the home. Those in the photo were: Monty Fox, Charles William (Bill) Fox, James Arthur Fox holding Neddy Rae (Ned) Fox. Monty, Bill and Ned are the children of Ester Booth Fox and James A. Fox.

The Bauer mine was commonly called the “Honerine Mine”. The Honerine was actually composed of several mines located in the area. It was a combined effort of all the mines as water had become a limiting factor in being able to mine any lower in the existing shafts. The names of the early companies are nearly forgotten, but the better known of the later were Honerine, Galena King, Bluestone Lime and Quartzite, Argent, Ben Harrison and Calumet. At the turn of the century a consolidation of a number of the mines was made and the Honerine drain tunnel (1200 level) was driven for two and a half miles to cut beneath the principle workings at the 1,000 to 1,200 feet below the surface. The Honerine tunnel was primarily used for access to each of these workings after it’s completion. The Calumet became the main producer toward the end of the mines era.

The portal of the drain tunnel is located six miles south of Tooele City and is within the Rush Valley Mining District. The Combined Metals Reduction Company purchased the Honerine and other mines in the area from the Bullion Coalition Company in 1922 and since that time had acquired the major properties in the district. Located at the mouth of the tunnel was a mill for processing the ores. Also located there was several homes provided by the company for the workers.

Based on ore samples of specific areas and from assays of mine production and mill runs, the mining foreman and geologists determined where mining should be attempted.

However, experienced miners learned that ore deposits were associated with the system of faults and fissures the were interspersed in the beds of lime rock. Thus, even when the company abandoned an area, the miners would continue to prospect around in searching for small ore bearing fissures which the thought could be opened up into larger ore bodies of commercial value. Miners approached the management for leasing rights.

Leasing became an important part of CMR Mining Operations. The company benefitted because the leasers did the development work at their own expense and risk. The leasers, if successful, made “big money.” The ores were process by the company mill and the milling process was paid for from the profits of the leaser.

. The Calumet was a 1200 deep shaft that opened up on the 1200 foot level which was the drain tunnel. From the 1200 foot level a shaft was sunk on the Calumet limestone to the 2100 foot level. At 125 foot intervals tunnels were driven to access the ore body. From the 2100 foot level a second shaft was sunk. This shaft was down 400 feet. This placed the total of the Calumet workings at 2400 feet deep. The ore was hoisted from the Muscatine shaft and is transferred by haulage motor to the 2100 foot level to the Calumet shaft where it is hoisted to the 1200 foot level. Here it is transferred to the mine portal thru the drain tunnel approximately two and half miles.

On the surface of the Calumet shaft a large hoist (winch) was located where the operator sat in a large chair and operated the hoist. The area around the shaft was concrete with no gating around the shaft. Large fans were operated here to provide ventilation to the mine. Air was exhausted thru this shaft to the outside. A hoist man was always on duty here as a safety precaution as this was an escape route for the mines should the main tunnel become blocked. Today the opening of the shaft is blocked with a criss-crossed array of reinforcing rod on 10 inch centers. This has been place over the opening so as to limit access to the mine. I remember going

to this location as a child, probably sometime around 1952. Jim Fox was working the hoist and dad took us there to visit with him. The area is remembered by me as being quite large as I was quite young and things seem bigger when your little. The opening of the shaft was about 20 feet across, it seemed. I remember sticking my finger in a open light socket and getting shocked. Uncle Jim gave each one of us a length of rope. It became a treasure as we played with it as cowboys would do.



The above photo was taken in 2010 and is how the opening to the Calumet mine looks today.

Charles obtained a lease in the Calumet workings. Each of the sons probably had a lease at one time or another. I have talked to several people who worked in the mine and they have all said that the leasers either made money or didn't. Charles was one that made money. My Dad said he worked with him at times and with Jim Fox. He went to the bank with Charles where he deposited a check that was over \$3,000.00. That was a lot of money in those days.

Mining their lease was rather dangerous. The normal way to mine was in a downward or sideways direction. This allowed for normal airflow and minimized the creation of air pockets of poisonous gases. The leasers were required to remove the ore body in their area and this sometimes resulted mining in an upward direction. This created an air pocket that was difficult to ventilate. Several miners suffered thru these gases which resulted in lung damage. Cave-ins were common as were equipment failures. Blasting a drift or shaft sometimes resulted in death of injury to the miners. Mining was hard work and took it's toll on even the strongest individuals.

The photo below is not of the Bauer workings but gives the reader a idea of what it was like to work in a mine .



Charles evidently had accumulated some money thru operating his lease. Ellen's father, Samuel Bradshaw, had informed them that a rather nice farm located in Minersville was for sell and if they wanted it they better act quickly. Charles purchased the farm about 194??. The property was located on the west side of town. The current address is 390 West 200 South. They also had several acres of hayfields (36.25 acres) located in the area known as the Minersville fields, located between Minersville and Milford. The home sat on several acres of land that contained a large barn, corrals, a granary, and a garden area. There were several large trees that lined the property with several fruit trees. A garage that they owned sat on the west side but was not used by them. An outhouse was located a short distant from the back of the house as was a root cellar. Toilet paper was the old Sears catalog. The home contained a wood cook stove and was heated by coal heaters located thru out the home. Ellen slept in a small room at the back of the home as she was suffering from severe rheumatism in her later years and it was warmer there. Bathing was accomplished by heating water on the wood stove and washing one's self in a tub located in the side room. Cooking was done on a old style wood cook stove located in the kitchen. There

was a basement that wasn't more than a dug out space. We were never allowed to go down there so I can't describe what it was like. The photo below shows the home as it is today. Most of the trees are gone. A garage has been built on the east side of the home. The back property has been sold and new homes built where the barn and corrals once stood. Many happy memories were made here for our family visiting Grandpa and Grandpa.

A some point in Charles's life he had accidently shot off his little finger on his left hand. This is the story my mother told me. He contacted cancer from it and the doctors removed his arm up to his elbow. This was a common treatment in those days as not much was know about the cause of cancer. He had a hook which replaced his hand and he could open and close it by flexing his shoulder. This allowed him some use of his arm. Life for him was difficult after this happened. He couldn't work in the fields. I remember watching him try to perform simple tasks around the home and with his determined mind he could do almost anything.

As life went on for him the cancer spread and his arm was completely removed up to his shoulder just prior to his death. He was 72 years old when he died and is buried in the Minersville cemetery next to his wife Ellen. Shown below is a photo of their headstone.





The history of the settlement of Minersville is a colorful one. Details can be found in a book published by “The Minersville Committee” in 1962. This book was recently republished and copies were available at the Minersville Library. The book is titled “They Answered The Call, A History of Minersville, Utah”.

Many a happy time was spent at their home. It was a tradition to gather there and go fishing at the ole fishing hole located on the river coming out of the Minersville reservoir. I can’t remember too many times we actually fished the reservoir. Most of the time we fished the stream and did quite well. I remember the men would station Grandma Ellen on her favorite hole with us kids waiting on her. They would fish on down the river. Us kids were responsible to take Grandma’s fish off the hook and re-bait it with a live minnow. She generally out fished them all. I can remember taking off her fish and putting them on a stringer, re-baiting the hook and her throwing it out in the river. Dad would usually catch minnows just above Minersville in the stream where it was divided into the several canals. This is also the location of the old Hot springs resort just above Minersville. Dad had a minnow seine and I still have it to this day. Minnows were kept in a minnow bucket that dad had. The others would take a few in a can along with some worms when they fished.

Grandma Ellen had a great mind. It’s too bad that she didn’t write down all that she knew. She could tell you how someone was related and list their marriage dates in most cases. In those days everyone in Minersville was related in one way or another. She could recite the alphabet backward better than most can recite it forward. Us kids like to get her to do this often as she would do it for us most of the times we asked. She was a great story teller. She had a lot of tales

she could recite from memory. I remember one that she told us about every time we went fishing at her favorite hole. This fishing hole was located just a short distance down the river from a farm and a bridge that was used to get to the other side of the river. This was the only bridge from there to the Hanging Rock Dance hall. At this farm was an old grain silo made of concrete. It had rungs for climbing cast into the side of the structure. Grandma Ellen said that in the early days of this area Spaniards had placed a cache of silver bars near there. (The old Lincoln mine located North of Minersville was a old Spanish mine). There was a young lady who had fallen in love with someone and had taken her own life by climbing to the top of the silo and jumping into it. That on the nights of a full moon her ghost would repeat this action and if one had the courage to ask her she would tell you where the silver was. Of course this one of many favorite ghost stories of her grandchildren. She had many.

The old Hanging rock Dance hall was located about halfway between Minersville and the reservoir dam. The hall was destroyed by fire and all that was left was a foundation and concrete floor. At this site it was common for all the family to gather along with other family members from the Booth side, on the opening day of fishing season. This was after both Grandma and Grandpa had passed away. We spent many a night here looking at the stars and talking about them. Family reunions were held there at times. The last being several years ago. A flood in the early nineteen eighties destroyed the concrete floor and there is not much area left to camp on.

When staying at their home the grownups (Aunt Shirly) often gathered up the children and took them to the old swimming hole to cool off. There was a bend in the river where the water was deep enough to swim. There were cottonwood trees along the bank and a rope swing was hung from one of the limbs. It was fun for the older children to swing out over the water and let go so they dropped into the hole with a splash. The name of the swimming hole was "Pecker Neck" as I remember.

After Grandpa Charles passed away with cancer Grandma Ellen stayed at the home for some time. Grandpa passed away in 1955. Grandma Ellen often stayed at our home in Tooele when she needed help. She had severe rheumatism and couldn't do for herself as she would have liked. She also stayed in the home of her other children. She couldn't move very fast and always walked with a crutch under one arm. I remember that she always kept a coffee can under her bed and would use it for her bathroom at night. Our children were tasked with emptying it for her. She would almost always fill it to the brim so it was hard to make it to the outhouse to empty it without spilling some. There would be a small poop-e-dupe floating on top which made it very unpleasant. She was a wonderful woman and a great inspiration to us all for the hardships she endured in her life.

Ellen passed away in her home in 1958. The home was later sold to settle the estate. Their son Jim Fox was the executor of the will. The home in Minersville was sold along with the barn and corrals for \$5000.00. The hay fields located west of town along with the water shares were sold to Ellen's brother William Bradshaw and his son for \$11,000.00. They owned 39 shares of water from the reservoir. The home they still owned in Tooele was given to Vivian Stewart, wife of Leland Stewart. Not much was left of their possessions as most of it was destroyed by vandals who broke into the home. My dad said that when Jim Fox had gone to empty the home vandals had destroyed everything. Most of the photos and other documents they had were piled in the middle of the basement and the fruit bottles located there were broken over much of it as to destroy any worth. One can only wish some of it had been preserved today so the family history contained could be passed on to others.

In the pages below are some of their photos my mom and dad had.



Ellen C. and Charles Arthur Fox taken at home of Jim and Alice Booth in 24 North 6<sup>th</sup> Street. Tooele, Utah. Taken approximately 1953 or 1954.





Ellen C. Fox. Taken in their front yard in Minersville, Utah



From left to right: Ned Fox, Steve ?, James A. Fox, Charles A. fox, Jim Booth, John Booth.  
Taken in the back yard of Jim and Alice Booth  
24 North 6<sup>th</sup> Street, Tooele, Utah



Alice (Fox) Booth and her son Charles Booth.  
Taken in front of Charles A. Home in Tooele,  
Utah. Taken in 1936.



Charles A. Fox. And his old truck.



From left to right: Ellen C. Fox, Charles A. Fox, James A. Fox, Alice Fox Booth. Taken in the back yard of Alice and Jim Booth at 24 North 6<sup>th</sup> Street, Tooele, Utah.



Charles A. Fox, Esther Booth Fox, her son Ned Fox. Taken at Charles Fox home in Minersville, Utah.



Ellen C. Fox holding ???, Charles A. Fox, John Booth. Taken in back yard of Jim and Alice Booth 24 North 6<sup>th</sup> Street, Tooele, Utah.



From left to right; Alice Fox Booth holding Charles Booth, Norma Fox, Charles A. Fox, James A. Fox. Taken at the home of Charles A. Fox in Tooele, Utah approximately 1936. This photo was taken before the addition of a back bedroom was built by Charles. Notice the old car where the bedroom is.



From left to right; Harry Miller, Charles A. Fox, Monte Fox. Fish from the Minersville River. Photo take at the home in Minersville, Utah



Harry Miller holding fish taken from the Minersville river. Photo taken at the home of Charles A. Fox in Minersville, Utah.



John W. Booth brother to Jim Booth. Taken outside Charles A. Fox home in Tooele, Utah



From left to right: William Bradshaw, Claude Bradshaw, Charles A. Fox. Will and Claude are brothers to Ellen. Photo probably taken in Minersville, Utah.



James J Booth and his brother Fred Booth. Probably taken on the Minersville River.



Not in order: : Dorrel Booth, Loyd Booth, Monte Fox, Bill Fox, Brad Fox, Ned Fox, Charles Booth. Big mud Catfish caught in Minersville Reservoir.



L to R: Dennis Booth, Charles Booth, Janice Booth, Ellen Fox, Charles Fox holding Linda and Tim Booth.





L to R: Ellen Fox, Alice Booth, Janice Booth, Dennis Booth, Charles Booth  
This was probably taken in the Fox home in Minersville.



L to R: Ellen Fox, Dennis Booth, Charles Booth, Linda Booth, Alice Booth standing,  
Charles Fox, Tim Booth, Janice Booth. This was probably taken at the Fox home in Minersville.