

History of The Stone Lion Inn

A Genealogical Project by Kathryn Wickham

Historian and Researcher for Oklahoma Paranormal Research and Investigations



F. E. Houghton

The Stone Lion Inn was built the year of Oklahoma's statehood 1907 by Frederick Ernest Houghton, president of Houghton-Douglas Cotton Company and proprietor of Houghton & Houghton bank grocery. He is often listed in historical documents as F. E. Houghton.

Houghton Family Beginnings - The Facts

Fred was born in Lancaster, PA on 18 March 18, 1854. He married Carrie M. McKisson on Nov. 15, 1874 in LaSalle County, Illinois. They had two daughters: Maude Lee Mary Houghton (b. April 1877) and Grace Helena (b. July 1885). Fred is next found in West Guthrie on the 1890 Territorial Census of Oklahoma with both of his daughters. It is unknown where his first wife resided at this time.

Page No. 4
Enumeration District No. 230

First Territorial Census of Oklahoma
POPULATION.

Year of Birth, Territory, Race, Religion, or other Civil Qualities
Enumerated by me on the day of June, 1890.

NAME	Relationship to head of family	Age	Sex	Color	Place of Birth	Whether blind, deaf, dumb, insane, idiot, pauper, convict, or other Civil Qualities
Frederick E. Houghton	Head	36	M	W	Pa	
Carrie M. McKisson	Wife	20	F	W	Pa	
Maude Lee Mary Houghton	Daughter	13	F	W	Pa	
Grace Helena Houghton	Daughter	5	F	W	Pa	
John H. Houghton	Son	11	M	W	Pa	
William H. Houghton	Son	10	M	W	Pa	
John H. Houghton	Son	9	M	W	Pa	
John H. Houghton	Son	8	M	W	Pa	
John H. Houghton	Son	7	M	W	Pa	
John H. Houghton	Son	6	M	W	Pa	
John H. Houghton	Son	5	M	W	Pa	
John H. Houghton	Son	4	M	W	Pa	
John H. Houghton	Son	3	M	W	Pa	
John H. Houghton	Son	2	M	W	Pa	
John H. Houghton	Son	1	M	W	Pa	

Enumerated by me on the day of June, 1890.

First Territorial Census of Oklahoma Listing Fred Houghton (age 36), Maude (13) and Grace (5) at the bottom of the image
The next records reveal Fred married a second wife, Bertha Beatrice Killough on Aug 29, 1890, in Guthrie, OK. She was about 20 years younger than he was.

The Houghton's started out in a little house that once sat on the lot east side of where the Inn is located today. Although the house is no longer there, the front steps and portions of the foundation remains.



The remains of the front steps (left) and side stoop (right) of Houghton's original Guthrie residence at 1004 W. Warner Av.

Census records verify they had at least seven more children over the following years:

1. Coralee Augusta (b. Sep 1892)
2. Gladys Margurite (b. Jun 1894)
3. William Jennings (b. Aug 17, 1896) –not listed in family censuses. He is only mentioned in a newspaper birth announcement.
4. Alma Gertrude (b. Sep 1897)
5. Frank Ernest (b. July 4, 1899)
6. Adolph Theodore (b. 1902)
7. Dorothea Vernon (b. Sep 1906)

Construction began in 1906 when they determined they needed more living space. The new house was completed in 1907 at a cost of \$11,900.00 making it the most expensive house built in Guthrie at the time. It has three stories and a basement totaling 4,748 square feet of living space.

The Houghton's moved into the house in 1907 and further census reports reveal they proceeded to have three more children:

1. Russell Beverly (b. Apr 1908)
2. Marjorie Louise (b. April 15, 1910)
3. Gordon Summer (b. Oct 1911)



Caption reads, "Mrs. F. E. Houghton of Guthrie, OK, and her children, Dorothy, age 9, Russell, 8, Marjorie, 6, and Gordon." A hand written note dates the photo at Aug 1916.

Separating Fact from Fiction

A summary of the Houghton children is as follows. Frederick Houghton had two children with his first wife, Carrie, and at least ten children with his second wife, Bertha. Some documentation reveals there may have been other children born to Fred and Bertha, but birth and death records were not required before statehood.

There is an urban legend that states a young female child around the age of 8 died at the hands of the family maid who over-medicated her while she was suffering from whooping cough. It is said this story came directly from the Houghton children who talked of a sister long passed, but the records prove that every Houghton daughter lived well into adulthood.

The only written evidence of a Houghton child death is documented in early census records. The number of total births and of living children was noted and records reveal only one child in the family had died before 1910.

of each person whose place of abode on June 1, 1900, was in this family. Enter surname first, then the given name and middle initial, if any. INCLUDE every person living on June 1, 1900. Omit children born since June 1, 1900.	Relationship of each person to the head of the family.	Color or race.	Sex.	DATE OF BIRTH.		Age at last birthday.	Whether single, married, widowed, or divorced.	Number of years married.	Mother of how many children.	Number of those children living.
				Month.	Year.					
3	4	5	6	7		8	9	10	11	12
Olecia Olonza P. 7-1	Head	W	M	Feb	1844	56	2m	28		
— Chester S.	son	W	M	April	1871	29	8			
— Waverly C.	son	W	M	June	1874	25	8			
Houghton Fred C. 7-1	Head	W	M	March	1854	46	M	16		
— Bertha	wife	W	F	Feb	1862	38	M	16	8	5

This census report reveals Bertha Houghton had lost only one child before 1900.

NAME of each person whose place of abode on April 15, 1910, was in this family. Enter surname first, then the given name and middle initial, if any. Include every person living on April 15, 1910. Omit children born since April 15, 1910.	RELATION. Relationship of this person to the head of the family.	PERSONAL DESCRIPTION.								
		Sex.	Color or race.	Age at last birthday.	Whether single, married, widowed, or divorced.	Number of years of present marriage.	Mother of how many children.	Number born.	Number now living.	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11		
Houghton Fred C.	Head	M	W	56	M	2	19			
— Bertha	wife	F	W	36	M	1	19	9	8	

This census report reveals Bertha Houghton did not lose any more children between 1900 and 1910.

Some accounts claim the daughter was Augusta, because she disappears on the family census records after 1900 when she was age 7. Records reveal that she in fact lived on into adulthood. She is listed in the 1910 census as a student at Mount Carmel Academy in Wichita, KS, at age 18.

STATE Kansas COUNTY Adair TOWNSHIP OR OTHER DIVISION OF COUNTY Wichita NAME OF INSTITUTION Mount Carmel Academy NAME OF INCORPORATED PLACE Wichita ENUMERATED BY ME ON THE 2

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR—BUREAU OF THE CENSUS
THIRTEENTH CENSUS OF THE UNITED STATES: 1910

LOCATIONS.	NAME	RELATION.	PERSONAL DESCRIPTION.	SATIVITY.	CHILDREN.
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Carroll, Margaret	Student	W 17	OKla	OKla
2	— Ruth	"	W 15	OKla	OKla
3	— Bertha	"	W 15	OKla	OKla
4	— Bertha	"	W 15	OKla	OKla
5	— Bertha	"	W 15	OKla	OKla
6	— Bertha	"	W 15	OKla	OKla
7	— Bertha	"	W 15	OKla	OKla
8	— Bertha	"	W 15	OKla	OKla
9	— Bertha	"	W 15	OKla	OKla
10	— Bertha	"	W 15	OKla	OKla
11	— Bertha	"	W 15	OKla	OKla
12	— Bertha	"	W 15	OKla	OKla
13	— Bertha	"	W 15	OKla	OKla
14	— Bertha	"	W 15	OKla	OKla
15	— Bertha	"	W 15	OKla	OKla
16	— Bertha	"	W 15	OKla	OKla
17	— Bertha	"	W 15	OKla	OKla
18	— Bertha	"	W 15	OKla	OKla
19	— Bertha	"	W 15	OKla	OKla
20	— Bertha	"	W 15	OKla	OKla
21	— Bertha	"	W 15	OKla	OKla
22	— Bertha	"	W 15	OKla	OKla
23	— Bertha	"	W 15	OKla	OKla
24	— Bertha	"	W 15	OKla	OKla
25	— Bertha	"	W 15	OKla	OKla
26	— Bertha	"	W 15	OKla	OKla
27	— Bertha	"	W 15	OKla	OKla
28	— Bertha	"	W 15	OKla	OKla
29	— Bertha	"	W 15	OKla	OKla
30	— Bertha	"	W 15	OKla	OKla

Augusta Houghton on the 1910 census (age 18) for Mount Carmel Academy in Wichita, KS

GUTHRIE CITY DIRECTORY, 1915.

Houghton Augusta, student Methodist Uni, b 1016 W Warner av.

Houghton Fred E (Bertha) (F E Houghton Co) (F E Houghton Motor Co), r 1016 W Warner av.

HOUGHTON F E CO (Fred E Houghton, Addison J Casey, Adolph T Bunting), Whol Flour 202 N Division, Groceries and Meats 124 S 2d, 114-116 N Division, Tels 374 and 375.

Houghton F E Motor Co (Fred E Houghton), 110 S 1st.

House David D (c), r 1009 W Vilas av.

918	36 R	25	Hansen, William H.	Head	M W 50 M	46 46 46	Tanner		Jam. Blos	XOXO	#1 #2 #3	3m -	50	Schuman	Real Estate
			Burgata R	wife	F W 44 A	40 C3	Oshkosh		Jam Blos	XOXO	#1 #2 #3	3m -	48	Schubert	Smelter
			Feld F	son	M W 28 S	24 C3	Hansen	76	Jam Blos	XOXO	#1 #2 #3	5			
			Jones L	son	M W 19 S	16 44	Oshkosh		Jam Blos	XOXO	3m - - -	-	78	Chapman	Grocery

According to some records, Augusta went by her first name, Coralee or “Cora”, later into her adulthood. She was eventually widowed (according to her death certificate) and passed away from heart failure at the age of 81 years while living in Harlingen, TX.

STATE OF TEXAS

021-02-2 031-02-2

CERTIFICATE OF DEATH

4/24 57

STATE FILE NO.

07521

1. PLACE OF DEATH

a. COUNTY

Cameron

b. CITY OR TOWN OR PLACE OR CITY (Not in place, give precinct no.)

Harlingen

c. LENGTH OF STAY

1 day

d. NAME OF PLACE (If not in hospital, give street address)

HOSPITAL OR INSTITUTION

Valley Baptist Hospital

e. IS PLACE OF DEATH OTHER CITY LIMITED?

NO

2. USUAL RESIDENCE (If none, see next item. This includes residence before admission)

a. STATE

Texas

b. CITY OR TOWN OR PLACE OR CITY (Not in place, give precinct no.)

Harlingen

c. STREET ADDRESS (If none, give location)

513 East Monroe

d. IS RESIDENCE MORE CITY LIMITED?

NO

e. IS RESIDENCE ON A VESSEL?

NO

3. NAME OF DECEASED

(Last)

Corra

(First)

A

(Middle)

None

(Date of birth)

Jan 30, 1974

4. DATE OF BIRTH

Jan 30, 1974

5. SEX

Female

6. COLOR OR RACE

White

7. MARRIAGE

Married

8. DATE OF MARRIAGE

Sept. 12, 1992

9. ISSUE 1 YEAR

Married

10. ISSUE 2 YEARS

Married

11. USUAL OCCUPATION (Give code and kind of work done)

Kind of BUSINESS OR INDUSTRY

Sales

12. OCCUPATION (If none, give code)

Cosmetics

13. GENDER OF WHAT CHILD

USA

14. FATHER'S NAME

Guthrie Okla.

15. MOTHER'S MAIDEN NAME

USA

16. SOCIAL SECURITY NO.

XXXX-XX-XXXX

17. SIGNATURE

Killough (first name unknown)

Mrs. Helen Pugh

18. SIGNATURE

XXXX-XX-XXXX

19. SIGNATURE

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Others think this poisoned child might be a daughter named Irene since she appears on the 1910 census as a newborn, but an extensive search does not show her in any other records.

STATE Oklahoma COUNTY Logan TOWNSHIP OR OTHER DIVISION OF COUNTY X NAME OF INSTITUTION X DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR-BUREAU OF THE CENSUS THIRTEENTH CENSUS OF THE UNITED STATES: 1910-POPULATION 134 SUPERVISOR'S DIST. ENUMERATION DIST. NAME OF INCORPORATED PLACE Guthrie City WARD OF CITY George ENUMERATED BY ME ON THE 26th DAY OF April 1910.

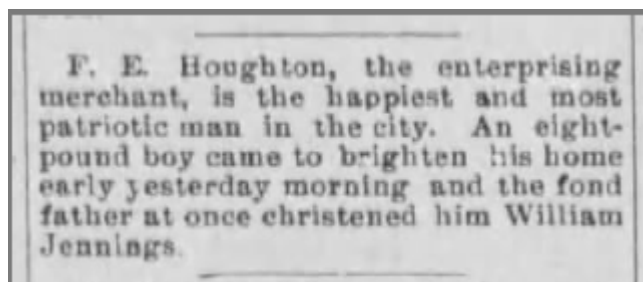
LOCATION	NAME	RELATION	PERSONAL DESCRIPTION	NATIVITY			EDUCATION	OCCUPATION
				Place of birth of this person	Place of birth of father of this person	Place of birth of mother of this person		
1016 299 299	Houghton, Fred C.	Head	M W 36 M 2-19	Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky	English	Merchant
	Bertha	Wife	F W 36 M 1-19	Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky	English	None
	Marjorie Louise	Daughter	F W 11 S	Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky	English	Bookkeeper
	Frank G.	Son	M W 10 S	Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky	English	None
	Adolph	Son	M W 7 S	Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky	English	None
	Elizabeth	Daughter	F W 3 S	Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky	English	None
	Cooper, Aubrey C.	Head	M W 34 M 1-17	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	English	Crocker
	Louise	Wife	F W 31 M 1-17	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	English	None

1910 Census taken April 26, 1910 lists "Irene" at age "0" meaning she is less than one month old.

The date this census was taken was on April 26, 1910. There is record of a daughter born on April 15, 1910, by the name Marjorie Louise. It is highly likely that the "Irene" mentioned in the census is actually Marjorie. This would mean she was 11 days old when the census taker visited the home. Dr. Vella, genealogist for the Houghton Project (the world's largest compilation of Houghton family records), confirms that many children had different names (or no name) on census records than their actual names. This was likely before they received a legal name on a birth certificate or their baptismal names.

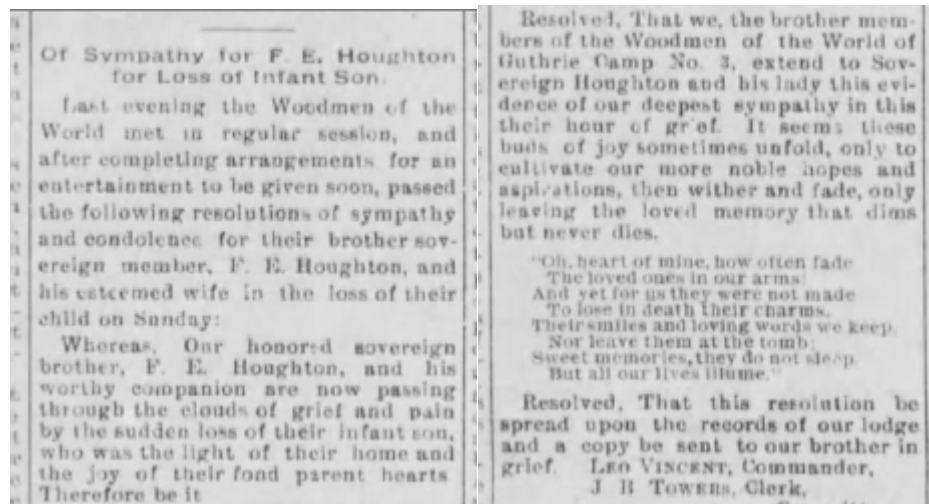
Oklahoma Territorial Museum records do not include any birth records for that year. There are many years where records are misplaced for Logan County. Records were only kept if a birth was attended by a physician or midwife. Many births in that time occurred at home with the assistance of family.

There is another child in the Houghton family that may have gone by a different name than their baptismal name. Newspaper records reveal a birth announcement for a boy born to F. E. Houghton who was baptized as William Jennings. His birth date was Aug. 7, 1896. No other record exists with this name.



Guthrie Daily Leader Aug. 8, 1896.

Further research reveals a newspaper article from the fraternal benefit society, Woodmen of the World, in which F. E. Houghton was a member. They expressed their sympathy for the Houghton's loss of an infant son who died Nov. 15, 1896.



Sympathy announcement for loss of infant son Guthrie Daily Leader Nov. 17, 1896

It is suspected this loss was the child that Mrs. Houghton claims in her census data in 1900 and 1910. He would have been nearly 3 months old at his passing. However, records for a Frank Houghton (not to be confused with Frank Ernest Houghton (1899-1971) are on file at Guthrie's Summit View Cemetery with a birth year of 1895 and a death year of 1896. The data for the birth year at the cemetery conflicts with the birth announcement in the newspaper. Also, the name Frank with the death year 1896 in cemetery records matches the year of death with the newspaper article, but there is no name mentioned in the article. This would indicate that perhaps Frank's baptismal name was William Jennings.

Death records are also not available for the year 1896 in Logan County. It is not known by the city where these records have gone. It was also not required to keep birth and death records in Oklahoma Territory until statehood in 1907. Even then, vital records have remained missing until about the years 1910-1912.

The cause of death for this Houghton son in 1896 remains a mystery.

Frederick E. Houghton – The Civic and Business Leader

Helen F. Holmes describes the home and history of Fred E. Houghton in her book, Homes of Historic Guthrie (1987). She writes that Houghton arrived during the land run of 1889 and had significant connections with the railroads. He was supervisor of wheat seed distribution to the settlers in the fall of 1889 and set up a general merchandise store in West Guthrie shortly after his arrival. She states his business continued to expand across the years. He had department stores and cotton gins in many small towns within Logan County.

The city directory for Guthrie in 1905 lists F. E. Houghton as president of Houghton-Douglas Cotton Co. on 624 W. Noble Av. and co-proprietor of Houghton & Houghton Bank Grocery in the Gray Brothers building at 103 W. Oklahoma Av. His store was located at the west end of the building.

Iowa Gazette R. L.	Hough Wm (c), lab, b 601 S Broad.
	Houghton-Douglas Cotton Co, F E Houghton, pres; J E Oliver, vice pres; J E Douglas, sec and treas; 624 W Noble av.
	Houghton Fred E (Houghton & Houghton), pres Houghton-Douglas Cotton Co, r 1004 W Warner av.
	Houghton Grace, student, b 1004 W Warner av.
	Houghton John F (Houghton & Houghton), r 623 E Logan av.
	HOUGHTON & HOUGHTON (Fred E and John F), Proprs Bank Grocery, 103 W Oklahoma av.

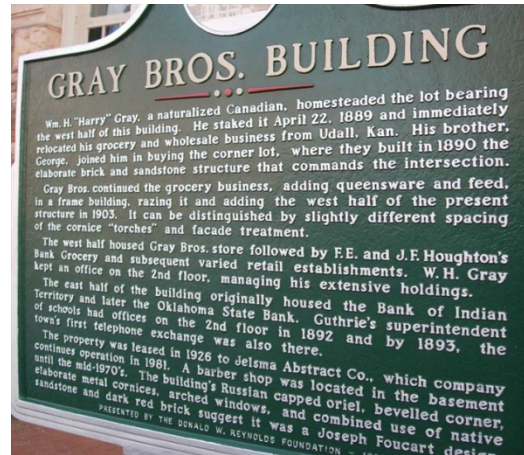
Guthrie City Directory 1905



Vintage Postcard with view of Oklahoma Av. looking west- Gray Bros. bldg. (left) and Houghton's "Bank Grocery" store. His store was on the west side of the Gray Bros. building.



Gray Bros. building today



Postcard drawing of a cotton mill in Guthrie

In 1909, W. H. Coyle and his consolidated companies (to include F. E. Houghton and the Houghton-Douglas Cotton Co.) were sued by the state for price discrimination and violation of anti-trust laws. The defendants' objection to the indictment was originally sustained. The appeals went back and forth until eventually a jury acquitted all companies of their indictments by in June 1913.

COTTON GIN CASES SOON TO BE TRIED

**Gin Owners Charged With
Discriminating in Prices
Paid For Lint.**

Guthrie, June 12.—(Special.)—On Monday the Logan county district court will begin the hearing of the famous "cotton gin" cases, which were begun in 1909 by Attorney General West, at the order of the governor. There is a long list of defendants, including W. H. Coyle, the W. H. Coyle Consolidated company, F. E. Houghton, R. A. Vose of Kansas City, W. O. Cawthorn, E. Cook, A. T. Beunting, Houghton and Douglass and the Southwestern Cotton Oil company.

The defendants were owners of gins and cotton warehouses over the county, and they are charged under the state law of conspiring to fix and maintain the ginning prices and the prices on cotton and of discriminating in their prices in favor of those growers who would agree to sell their lint to them and against the growers who wanted the cotton ginned and baled for their own benefit. At the trial four years ago it was shown in court that such discriminations were common, the prices being \$3.50 a bale to the patrons of the concerns and \$5 to those who insisted on selling their lint when and where they pleased.

At the first trial Judge Huston held that the section of the state law was indefinite and uncertain as it failed to define what "an agreement in restraint of trade" really consists of. He also ruled that the indictment was bad in that no date was therein mentioned as to when there was any acts of "restraint of trade." The state appealed the case to the court of criminal appeals, and there Judge Furman held that the law was good and the indictment valid. The case was remanded back to be tried under the indictments. What is known as the Crescent case will be the one called first, and Attorney General West will try the case. It is understood that the matters involved in these important cases will have to be finally decided in the United States supreme court.

COYLE ACQUITTED IN COTTON CASE

Guthrie, June 23.—W. H. Coyle, the Oklahoma millionaire charged with forming a pool to raise the price of cotton ginning in Oklahoma, was acquitted by the jury. The trial was a test case of a number which were based on the same indictments and the result of this case will govern all similar cases. Judge Huston stated that absolute proof of a pact to control prices was necessary for conviction and made due allowances for a reasonable profit.

The others indicted along with Coyle were F. E. Houghton, Jake Douglass, of Guthrie and R. A. Vose of Oklahoma City. It is thought that the state will make no further efforts to convict on these indictments.

Printed in the Muskogee Times-Democrat June 13, 1913 (left) and June 23, 1913 (right).

It appears by 1915, F. E. Houghton had left the cotton business as he was only listed as the owner of F. E. Houghton Co. (grocery) which had several locations at 202 N. Division, 114-116 N. Division, and 124 S. 2nd Streets. He also owned the first car dealership in Oklahoma called F. E. Houghton Motor Company which was located on 110 S. 1st St. He sold the Willys-Overland automobile and farm machinery.



New Prices on 8-16 and 12-25 H. P.

Avery Tractors

8-16 H. P. 2 PLOW TRACTOR NOW \$ 700
12-25 H. P. 3 POWER TRACTOR NOW \$1000

In line with the Avery policy of always selling their tractors at the lowest possible price, we are now authorized to announce new prices on the popular 8-16 and 12-25 H. P. two and three plow Avery tractors as above.

These tractors have the improved and well-known Avery features such as the Avery "Draft-Horse" Motor; "Direct-Drive" Transmission; Duplex Gasifiers which turn kerosene into gas and burn it all; Adjustable Crank Shaft Boxes; Two Bearing Practically Unbreakable Crank Shaft; Renewable Inner Cylinder Walls; Valves-in-Head; Universal Wheel Lugs; Round Radiator, etc.

There's a Size Avery Tractor for Every Size Farm

These 8-16 and 12-25 Avery are two of the six sizes of Avery tractors with all these special features. The other sizes are 14-28, 18-36, 25-50 and 40-80 H. P. The Avery Company also make a special 5-10 H. P. Avery Tractor, the wonderful Avery Motor Cultivator now built with six cylinders, and a size Avery Thresher and Plow for every size Avery Tractor.

Come in and see samples and get your Avery Tractor now for summer and fall work.

F. E. HOUGHTON MOTOR CO.

Phone 692.

GUTHRIE, OKLA.

122 N. Division.

Alma Suddeth had lived in the home at one point while her mother, Bertha, had ownership.

Bertha Beatrice Killough Houghton passed away in her home on Sunday May 1, 1958. Funeral services were given by Rev. J. Wilfred Walker from the First Christian Church in Guthrie. Upon her death, the home was willed to her daughter, Marjorie L. Bates.

Marjorie then sold the home to Mr. and Mrs. Joseph T. Walker in May of 1961 (Homes of Historic Guthrie, 1987). The Walkers had the home restored to its original condition while they operated an antique shop from the basement.

Rebecca Luker, the current owner of the Stone Lion Inn, bought the home in October of 1986 and developed the bed and breakfast that it is known to be today.

The following is a copy of Marjorie Louise Houghton Bates' obituary as it was printed in the Daily News from Longview, WA, on September 9, 2003.



Marjorie Houghton Bates

of Longview died of natural causes in her home on Sept. 8, 2003. She was born April 15, 1910 in Guthrie, Oklahoma where her father was part of the Oklahoma Territory Land Rush.

A painter and a sculptor, she taught art in the public schools of Texas. With an eye for the beautiful, she was a fashion designer, and artist

for the fashion industry, and owned her own apparel store outside Dallas, Texas

She traveled widely in the States and abroad. With her husband, D. Barker Bates, she moved to Longview in 1979. She was an active member of the community and of St. Stephens Episcopal Church.

Ten years ago she compiled and published several books of her writings and drawings including two volumes of poetry.

She was preceded in death by her husband D. Barker Bates in 2001.

She is survived by several nieces and nephews.

A memorial will be held at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church in Longview on Monday, Sept. 15 at 2 p.m. The family asks that, in lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to St. Stephen's Memorial Fund, 1428 22nd Ave., Longview, WA 98632