

County, Montana, from June 3 to June 10, 1910 by a census-taker from Bozeman named Henry F. Cowherd. Cowherd was a farmer in the Bozeman area. He was originally from Missouri, and he was 62 years old in 1910. The area assigned to Cowherd was designated by the Bureau of the Census as “*Basin Precinct – Gallatin National Forest – School District No. 54.*”

Cowherd came up the road from Bozeman to the Gallatin Basin to begin his work the first week of June in 1910. We do not know where he stayed – whether camping or with local residents -- but most of his workdays were probably spent on horseback, tracking up rough dirt roads and into canyons looking for ranchers, lumbermen and prospectors. He appears to have started counting up in the Cinnamon Creek area

On his first day of counting, Friday, June 3, 1910, Henry Cowherd counted just two people.

US Federal Census of Gallatin Basin Precinct, Friday, June 3, 1910

Rthesis Fransham was the first Forest Ranger of the United States Forest Service assigned to the Gallatin National Forest. The census notes that he was 33 years of age and from Iowa. It also notes, rather strangely, that he was the mother of 5 children. He may have been the father of 5 children. On page 119 of the history of the Gallatin Canyon by Janet Cronin and Dorothy Vick, there is a photo of Fransham and his wife at the ranger cabin on Cinnamon Creek.

Joe A. Sloan, is listed as a “stationary” engineer from New York. I have not located any other information about him, and I do not know what is meant by stationary.

On Saturday, June 4, Henry Cowherd enumerated the family of Augustus Franklin Crail on their homestead in the West Fork Meadow area. Two of the Crail homestead buildings still stand in Big Sky and are part of the Crail Ranch Homestead Museum.

STATE		DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR BUREAU OF THE CENSUS										SUPERVISOR'S DISTRICT NO.		SHEET NO.	
COUNTY		THIRTEENTH CENSUS OF THE UNITED STATES: 1910 - POPULATION										ENUMERATION DISTRICT NO.		B	
TOWNSHIP OR OTHER DIVISION OF COUNTY		NAME OF INCORPORATED PLACE										WARD OF CITY		2116	
NAME OF INSTITUTION		GENERATED BY ME ON THE										DAY OF		1910.	
NAME OF INSTITUTION		NAME OF INSTITUTION										DAY OF		1910.	
3	3	Phares Robert G	Husband	M 20 28 M 2	Iowa	Canada	Canada	English	Farmer	Home farm	yes	yes	0	7	1
		— Clara K	wife	F 20 28 M 2	Iowa	Iowa	Iowa	English	Home		yes	yes	0	7	1
		— Ruth C	Daughter	F 10 18 8	Montana	Iowa	Iowa		Home		yes	yes	0	7	1
4	4	Grant Augustus F	Husband	M 40 42 M 24	Indiana	Pennsylvania	New York	English	Farmer	Home farm	yes	yes	0	7	2
		— Cora Lynnet A	Wife	F 40 42 M 24	Montana	Indiana	Missouri	English	Home farm	no	yes	no	0	7	2
		— Belle S	Daughter	F 20 22 M 2	Missouri	Missouri	Missouri	English	Home		yes	yes	0	7	2
		— Selma	Daughter	F 10 12 8	Montana	Indiana	Missouri	English	Home		yes	yes	0	7	2
		— Eugene F	Son	M 10 22 8	Montana	Indiana	Missouri	English	Farmer	Home farm	yes	yes	0	7	2

US Federal Census of Gallatin Basin Precinct, Saturday, June 4, 1910

The Crails also maintained a home in Bozeman at that time, and they were enumerated there in the 1910 census on April 17.

Mr. Cowherd did not do any census-taking on Sunday, June 5. On Monday, June 6, 1910, Mr. Cowherd started his workday by counting three single men, all miners working a quartz mine in the Basin area.

STATE		DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR BUREAU OF THE CENSUS										SUPERVISOR'S DISTRICT NO.		SHEET NO.	
COUNTY		THIRTEENTH CENSUS OF THE UNITED STATES: 1910 - POPULATION										ENUMERATION DISTRICT NO.		A	
TOWNSHIP OR OTHER DIVISION OF COUNTY		NAME OF INCORPORATED PLACE										WARD OF CITY		2117	
NAME OF INSTITUTION		GENERATED BY ME ON THE										DAY OF		1910.	
NAME OF INSTITUTION		NAME OF INSTITUTION										DAY OF		1910.	
6	5	Shien Patrick	Husband	M 40 70 8	Ireland	Ireland	Ireland	English	Miner	Quartz mine	no	no	0	7	3
		— Levenski Andrew	Husband	M 50 51 8	Prussia	Prussia	Prussia	English	Miner	Quartz mine	no	no	0	7	3
		— Beatty Hugh	Husband	M 40 60 10	New York	New York	New York	English	Miner	Quartz mine	no	no	0	7	3
		— Michener Thomas	Husband	M 40 41 M 11	Montana	Ohio	Missouri	English	Farmer	Home farm	yes	yes	0	7	5
		— Mary C	Wife	F 40 35 M 11	Montana	Illinois	Ohio	English	Home		yes	yes	0	7	5
		— Margaret A	Daughter	F 20 10 8	Montana	Montana	Kansas	English	Home		yes	yes	0	7	5
		— Charles L	Son	F 20 9 8	Montana	Montana	Kansas	English	Home		yes	yes	0	7	5
		— Ora N	Daughter	F 20 6 8	Montana	Montana	Kansas	English	Home		yes	yes	0	7	5
		— Edward Robert C	Daughter	F 10 8 8	Kansas	Ohio	Iowa	English	Home		yes	yes	0	7	5
		— Robert S	Wife	F 10 8 8	Illinois	Illinois	Illinois	English	Home		yes	yes	0	7	5

US Federal Census of Gallatin Basin Precinct, Monday, June 6, 1910

The first miner, listed as Patrick Shien, was an Irishman. His surname is variously spelled Sheehan, Shane and Shien. The second miner, Andrew Levinski, was a 51-year-old prospector who emigrated to the United States from Germany or Prussia in 1872. Levinski later became one of the most infamous personages in the Gallatin Basin area. In January 1917, angry because of threats to “jump” his mining claims, he shot and killed two prominent citizens of Gallatin County in the Gallatin Basin as they rode up to his camp along what is now called Levinski Creek. Levinski was brought to trial and acquitted. Shortly thereafter he disappeared from the area and was never seen again.

Tom Michener and his family, on the other hand, were among the most popular and prestigious people in the Basin area. They lived near the confluence of the West Fork River with the Gallatin River in the area now occupied by the Conoco Service Station and the Soldier’s Chapel.

Cowherd listed Tom Michener as the head of household. For census purposes, a household could be an individual living alone, a family, or a group of people living together not necessarily of the same family. For example, the Michener household included Tom, his wife Mary, three children, a hired man, and a 28-year-old school teacher named Ida Bishop.

Tom Michener's daughter, Dorothy Michener Vick (not yet born in 1910) based much of her 1992 book on the Gallatin Canyon and its characters on her father's recollections.

On Tuesday, June 7, Henry Cowherd tabulated the Lytle family – William, known as Billy, and his wife Etta P. Lytle, known as Pearl.

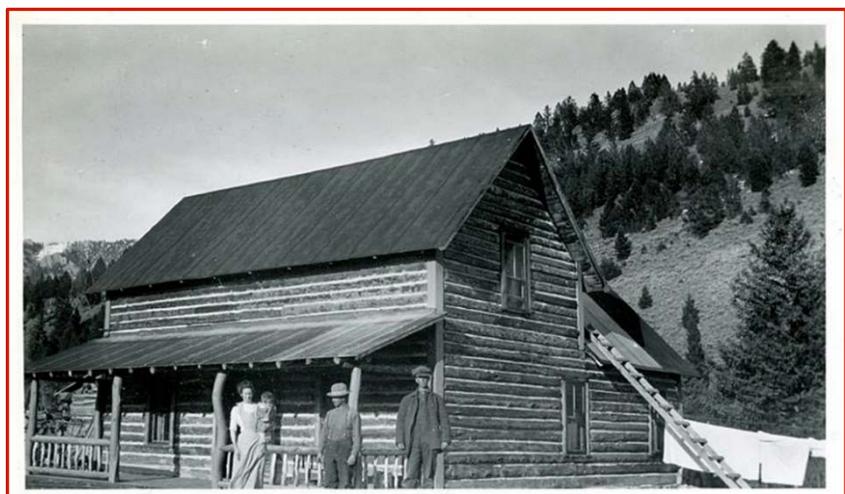
STATE		COUNTY		TOWNSHIP OR OTHER DIVISION OF COUNTY		NAME OF INCORPORATED PLACE		WARD OF CITY		SUPERVISOR'S DISTRICT NO.		ENUMERATION DISTRICT NO.		SHEET NO.			
Montana		Gallatin		Basin Precinct		Gallatin				2		44		B			
NAME OF INSTITUTION										ENUMERATED BY ME ON THE		DAY OF		MONTH		YEAR	
NAME OF INSTITUTION										H. F. Cowherd		7		June		1910	
LOCATION	NAME	RELATION	PERSONAL DESCRIPTION	SEX	AGE	ETHNIC OR RACE	EDUCATION	INDUSTRY	INDUSTRY	INDUSTRY	INDUSTRY	INDUSTRY	INDUSTRY	INDUSTRY	INDUSTRY	INDUSTRY	
11	W. F. Lytle	Head	W. F. Lytle	M	38	Am. W.	8	Farmer	General farming	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	
12	Etta P. Lytle	Wife	Etta P. Lytle	F	38	Am. W.	8	Farmer	General farming	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	
13	Johnnie Charles	Son	Johnnie Charles	M	11	Am. W.	8	Farmer	General farming	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	
14	Etta P. Lytle	Daughter	Etta P. Lytle	F	10	Am. W.	8	Farmer	General farming	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	
15	Johnnie Charles	Son	Johnnie Charles	M	11	Am. W.	8	Farmer	General farming	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	
16	Etta P. Lytle	Daughter	Etta P. Lytle	F	10	Am. W.	8	Farmer	General farming	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	

US Federal Census of Gallatin Basin Precinct, Tuesday, June 7, 1910

The Lytles built a homestead cabin in the Porcupine Basin where Billy Lytle farmed and guided hunting parties.

Pearl Lytle, whose maiden name was Lockhart, was the sister of Mary Lockhart Michener, shown in the census sheet for Monday, June 6.

Pearl Lytle was blind, but she was a very capable and independent woman. Prior to marrying Billy Lytle, she had tried to get title to her own homestead claim in the West Fork area.



Billy and Pearl Lytle's homestead in Porcupine Basin about 1912

After marrying Billy, it was said that Pearl was so good at handling all of her household chores and cooking and cleaning for the hunting parties that Billy guided, that few people realized that she could not see.

On Wednesday, June 8, 1910, Henry Cowherd counted three generations of the Wilson family living in the Basin.

STATE		DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR - BUREAU OF THE CENSUS										SUPERVISOR'S DISTRICT NO.		SHEET NO.	
MONTANA		THIRTEENTH CENSUS OF THE UNITED STATES: 1910 - POPULATION										2		6	
COUNTY		NAME OF INCORPORATED PLACE										ENUMERATION DISTRICT NO.		3 A	
Gallatin		Basin Precinct - Gallatin National Forest										45 Supplement		78	
TOWNSHIP OR OTHER DIVISION OF COUNTY		NAME OF INSTITUTION										WARD OF CITY		N 4 Grosbeak	
Basin Precinct - Gallatin National Forest		Basin Precinct - Gallatin National Forest										Basin Precinct - Gallatin National Forest		Basin Precinct - Gallatin National Forest	
NAME OF INSTITUTION		ENumerated BY ME ON THE										DAY OF		1910	
Basin Precinct - Gallatin National Forest		5										June		1910	

LOCATION	NAME	RELATION	PERSONAL DESCRIPTION					SEX			RACE			EDUCATION			MARRIAGE			
			Age	Sex	Color	Height	Weight	Married	Single	Widowed	Divorced	Never	White	Black	Other	None	None	None	None	
12	Wilson, Clinton	Head	82	M	W	5'11"	160	160	160	160	160	160	160	160	160	160	160	160	160	160
13	Wilson, Samuel M.	Son	42	M	W	5'10"	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150
	Mary J.	Wife	37	F	W	5'2"	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	120
	Robert C.	Son	7	M	W	3'6"	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60
	Robert H.	Son	10	M	W	3'8"	70	70	70	70	70	70	70	70	70	70	70	70	70	70

US Federal Census of Gallatin Basin Precinct, Wednesday, June 8, 1910

Clinton Wilson, age 82, was the oldest person living in the Basin in the 1910 census. He was originally from Ohio and came to Montana by way of Iowa. He is listed as living in a separate household from his son, Sam, and Sam's wife, Mary J. Wilson, known as Josie.

Coincidentally, Clinton Wilson's grandson, also named Clinton, is the youngest person listed in the census, at 1 month of age. Sam and his father's homesteads, known as the Buffalo Horn Ranch, were eventually combined into a 320-acre spread, which became the 320 Ranch, still in existence today.

On Thursday, June 9, Henry Cowherd counted a farmer named Louis Bart and 10 members of the Cunningham household.

STATE		DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR - BUREAU OF THE CENSUS										SUPERVISOR'S DISTRICT NO.		SHEET NO.	
MONTANA		THIRTEENTH CENSUS OF THE UNITED STATES: 1910 - POPULATION										2		B	
COUNTY		NAME OF INCORPORATED PLACE										ENUMERATION DISTRICT NO.		3 B	
Gallatin		Basin Precinct - Gallatin National Forest										45 Supplement		78	
TOWNSHIP OR OTHER DIVISION OF COUNTY		NAME OF INSTITUTION										WARD OF CITY		N 4 Grosbeak	
Basin Precinct - Gallatin National Forest		Basin Precinct - Gallatin National Forest										Basin Precinct - Gallatin National Forest		Basin Precinct - Gallatin National Forest	
NAME OF INSTITUTION		ENumerated BY ME ON THE										DAY OF		1910	
Basin Precinct - Gallatin National Forest		9										June		1910	

LOCATION	NAME	RELATION	PERSONAL DESCRIPTION					SEX			RACE			EDUCATION			MARRIAGE		
			Age	Sex	Color	Height	Weight	Married	Single	Widowed	Divorced	Never	White	Black	Other	None	None	None	None
14	Bart, Louis C.	Head	40	M	W	5'8"	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150
15	Cunningham, Andrew	Head	30	M	W	5'11"	160	160	160	160	160	160	160	160	160	160	160	160	160
	Mattie G.	Wife	26	F	W	5'2"	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	120
	Charles E.	Son	6	M	W	3'6"	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60
	Robert S.	Son	4	M	W	3'8"	70	70	70	70	70	70	70	70	70	70	70	70	70
	Augusta Angeline	Daughter	2	F	W	2'11"	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30
	William W. Wilson	Head	30	M	W	5'8"	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150
	Blanchard, Frank A.	Head	30	M	W	5'8"	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150
	Robert A.	Head	30	M	W	5'8"	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150
	Alvin, Albert S.	Head	30	M	W	5'8"	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150
	Blennan, Perry M.	Head	30	M	W	5'8"	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150

US Federal Census of Gallatin Basin Precinct, Thursday, June 9, 1910

Louis Bart, whose original full name was Louis Cass Bartholomew, and who was known as "Big Lew Bart," is the subject of several humorous anecdotes in the Cronin/Vick history of the Canyon. Dorothy Michener Vick recalled: "Big Lew Bart had cabins up and down the Gallatin. While living near the park line, across the river from Specimen Creek, he worried about a rock on the ridge above him. It seemed poised to roll down and smash through his cabin. So Lew went up the hill and worked at the rock until it rolled down the hill and smashed his cabin."

On Friday, June 10, 1910, his last day of census-taking in the Gallatin Basin, Henry Cowherd tabulated the Karst household.

STATE *Montana*
 COUNTY *Gallatin*
 TOWNSHIP OR OTHER DIVISION OF COUNTY *Prairie Prospect - Gallatin Basin*
 NAME OF INCORPORATED PLACE *None*
 DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR BUREAU OF THE CENSUS
 THIRTEENTH CENSUS OF THE UNITED STATES: 1910 POPULATION
 SUPERVISOR'S DISTRICT NO. *2*
 ENUMERATION DISTRICT NO. *11*
 SHEET NO. *2*
 A
 ENUMERATED BY ME ON THE *10* DAY OF *June* 1910
 WARD OF CITY *H. F. Cowherd*

HOUSEHOLD NO.	NAME	RELATION	PERSONAL DESCRIPTION	NATIVITY			EDUCATION	RECORD OF DEEDS
				Place of Birth of this Person	Place of Birth of Father of this Person	Place of Birth of Mother of this Person		
16-16	<i>Joseph Andrew J. Karst</i>	<i>Head</i>	<i>34 10 21 1876</i>	<i>Wisconsin</i>	<i>Wisconsin</i>	<i>Wisconsin</i>	<i>English</i>	<i>Farmer</i>
	<i>Leah Ann Karst</i>	<i>Wife</i>	<i>32 10 29 1878</i>	<i>Wisconsin</i>	<i>Wisconsin</i>	<i>Wisconsin</i>	<i>English</i>	<i>Farmer</i>
	<i>William Andrew Karst</i>	<i>Son</i>	<i>10 10 22 1900</i>	<i>Wisconsin</i>	<i>Wisconsin</i>	<i>Wisconsin</i>	<i>English</i>	<i>Farmer</i>
	<i>John Andrew Karst</i>	<i>Son</i>	<i>8 10 28 1902</i>	<i>Wisconsin</i>	<i>Wisconsin</i>	<i>Wisconsin</i>	<i>English</i>	<i>Farmer</i>
	<i>Anna H. Karst</i>	<i>Daughter</i>	<i>7 10 4 1903</i>	<i>Wisconsin</i>	<i>Wisconsin</i>	<i>Wisconsin</i>	<i>English</i>	<i>None</i>

Last sheet found

US Federal Census of Gallatin Basin Precinct, Friday, June 10, 1910

Pete Karst, age 34 from Wisconsin, is listed simply as “farmer,” but Karst was the original entrepreneur of the Canyon. He developed transportation services, established lodging and restaurants, and even set up an early ski run across from his cabins in Karst Kamp, a few miles north of Big Sky.

Over the course of eight days in early June, 1910, census-taker Henry Cowherd counted a total of 47 people living in 18 households in the Gallatin Basin area now known as Big Sky. He found a total of 31 males and 16 females. There were 10 children under the age of 18. Of the 29 people for whom occupations were listed, Cowherd counted 13 farmers, 8 farm laborers, 3 miners, 1 forest ranger, 1 carpenter, 1 engineer, 1 housekeeper, and 1 school teacher. Only three of the residents of Gallatin Basin were foreign born – Chalis Johnson, a farmer, was born in Sweden; Andrew Levinski, a miner, was born in Germany or Prussia; Patrick Shien, also a miner, was born in Ireland. All others were born in the United States or its territories; 15 claimed Montana as their place of birth.

After finishing his duty as census taker, Henry Cowherd returned to Bozeman and continued to live and farm in the Bozeman area until his death on January 3, 1913.

Sources

Clips from the 1910 US Federal Census in the Gallatin Basin Precinct are public records of the United States Census Bureau. Images of the pages were obtained through the Historic Crail Ranch Conservators’ subscription to the Ancestry.com genealogical research website.

The stories of the Crails, the Micheners, the Lytles, Andrew Levinski, Big Lew Bart, Pete Karst and many others whose names appear in the 1910 Census are told in two books:

- **Montana’s Gallatin Canyon: A Gem in the Treasure State**, by Janet Cronin and Dorothy Vick, Mountain Press Publishing Company, Missoula, MT, 1992.
- **Images of America: Big Sky**, by Jeff Strickler and Anne Marie Mistretta, Arcadia Publishing, Charleston, SC, 2012.