Bertha Lee's remains are one of more

Cemetery.

buried at Baker Prairie

ashes remained unclaimed at the

Oregon State Hospital

CANSY HERALD 5/20/09

Bertha Lee's remains, long hidden away at the Oregon State Hospital, reunite with family

BY PEGGY SAVAGE CANBY HERALD

and Anna Green Lee, who in 1848 were among the first settlers in the laughter of Albert and Martha Lee. Her father was the son of Philander Lee was born into one of Canby's founding families in 1880, the Cemetery — Canby's pioneer cemetery. rest Saturday, alongside her father and brother at Baker Prairie inety-one years after her death, Bertha Lee was finally laid to area. They are also

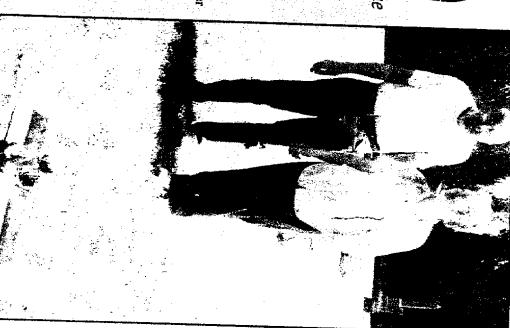
than 3,500 deceased patients whose was born prematurely Syndrome baby, she At the age of 15, she Probably a Down

was committed to the

renamed the Oregon State Hospital. she was just a little over 4 feet tall and weighed 60 pounds. Oregon State Insane Asylum in Salem. On the day she was admitted, In 1918, at age 37, she died at the institution, which had been

Her remains were cremated and her ashes placed in a copper canis-

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Saturday, 91 years after her death at Oregon State Hospital Ted Hall and Jeanine Younce Kersey, descendents of Canby's ploneer Lee family, visit the grave of Bertha Lee, buried Photos by Peggy Savage Bertha was one of 3,500

Canister was locked away for many years

of paper as their memorials. cans of paint, with only of hundreds of canisters notations scrawled on scraps stacked on pine shelves like away in a storage room, one The canister was locked Continued from Page 1

Historical Society member, Sharon Henry, a Canby were able to claim the ashes obtaining a death certificate. Kersey and Ted Hall, out about the discovery of through the process of the canisters, Lee family descendants Jeanine Younce institution. When news came ashes remained unclaimed a he moldering psychiatric deceased patients whose Kersey then contacted exceptions.

tion in Bertha's case.

city passed a resolution in ed as a Historic Park. The city of Canby and designatburials at the cemetery, with cemetery is owned by the Baker Prairie Cemetery. The buried next to her family at 1984 prohibiting further

plot, the city made an excep buried there, however, and there is room in the family burials were closed. Since who confirmed that, yes, City Attorney John Kelly endeavor. Carson spoke with tance in pursuing the cilor, and asked his assis-Bertha Lee's family is Carson, a former city coun-Henry contacted Randy

The burial was Saturday

to see if Bertha could be

Society was grateful to have played a part in the process The Canby Historical

with family members pre-

of the Canby United 23 with the Rev. Bill Taylor Methodist Church officiatbe at 2 p.m. Saturday, May A memorial service will

coming to an end and being Bertha's long journey finall laid to rest with her family. Canby Historical Society Carson, president of the City of Canby," said Sue "I'm very happy to see Historical Society and the from relatives to the Canb the help of so many people from beginning to end with "This has all come abou

WEEKDAY EDITION ♦ MAY 20, 2009

