

and found work with the lumber company. He became close with Joseph Patterson (Pa Pat), also a worker at the McNary sawmill, and married his daughter Mary in 1934.

In 1937, the Pattersons moved to Maxville, Oregon, because "that [was] where the work was," and Marsh followed with his wife and newborn son in 1939 to work for Bowman-Hicks Lumber Company. The BowmanHicks Lumber Company of Kansas City, Missouri, had purchased the Palmer Lumber Company operation in Wallowa County, Oregon, in 1923, and brought loggers, including African Americans, to work the timber. (8) Bowman-Hicks hired Henry Newton Ashby, formerly of Long Bell Lumber Company, to open the Maxville production. In 1924, Oregon's Labor Commissioner, C.H. Gram, received a letter asking if anything could be done to prevent Bowman-Hicks from bringing in African American workers. (9) The company continued to recruit other family members and friends of the original workers to meet their labor needs, as Marsh later recounted: "The first ones to come helped build the labor camp and the railroad.

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