

Names on the Range: Scientists and Science in the Naming of Sierra Nevada Features

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It is hardly surprising if many geographical features the world over are named by (and not seldom for) the explorers and mappers who reconnoitered and charted them. One of the reasons names are given to conspicuous geographic elements—often mountains or prominent coastal features—is practical: those involved in plotting routes and making maps find it convenient or even essential to assign names to landmarks key to achievement of their objectives. But other reasons are at work as well, having more to do with expression of possession or control. To name something is, in a sense, to assert dominion over it. The notion that ascendancy accompanies knowledge is deeply embedded in the ethos of science as practiced in the 19th and 20th centuries.

Places like California's Sierra Nevada range, to a very great extent brought within the domain of "known" territory only since the second half of the 19th century, bear names that reflect the cultural sensibilities of those who explored them. A self-conscious identification with science was common among those who accomplished the multi-generational task of revealing the Sierra's topography. It was natural to many of them, in the exercise of their assumed prerogative to name what they saw, to celebrate science. In most instances this meant allocating what must have seemed (except to those rare characters capable of digesting the truth that names are not necessarily forever) to be permanent distinction, usually to individual persons selected as scientific eponyms for mountains, passes, ridges, streams, lakes, or meadows.

The Whitney Survey (and before)

This process did not actually begin with the Whitney Survey (1860–1874). A few names linked with science or engineering remain from John C. Frémont's passage in 1845–46 (e.g., Kern, Owens). But the California Geological Survey headed by Josiah D. Whitney certainly intensified and entrenched the pattern. A good many peaks ended up being named for Survey personnel—compliments the Survey members paid to one another. There are mountains named for Whitney, William H. Brewer, Clarence King, James T. Gardiner, Charles F. Hoffmann, and William M. Gabb, all scientific members of the Survey. These names were assigned during the first few years of the Survey.

The Whitney Survey was also responsible for the naming of a number of mountains and other features in honor of other scientists and engineers admired by members of the Survey. Noteworthy characters whose names were memorialized in this way include Henry L. Abbot, James D. Dana, Oliver W. Gibbs, George H. Goddard, Andrew A. Humphreys, Charles Lyell, William Maclure, Karl Ritter, John Tyndall, and R. S. Williamson. The example was followed later by others as well, notably by R. B. Marshall and F. Matthes.



California Geological Survey (Whitney Survey): The Brewer field party, 1864. James T. Gardiner, Richard Cotter, William H. Brewer, Clarence King, (University of California, Museum of Paleontology.)

Names given by Robert B. Marshall, USGS Surveyor

Robert Bradford Marshall (1867–1949), a long-time employee of the U.S. Geological Survey, was in charge of topographic surveys in the Sierra Nevada during the early years of the 20th century. He later developed a comprehensive plan for water control and irrigation of California's Central Valley.

During surveys supervised by Marshall between 1907 and 1912, names were given Sierra landmarks honoring several topographers in service to the USGS (such as A. H. Thompson, Willard Johnson, and I. C. Russell) and also in recognition of figures he respected who were connected with exploration or with geology (notably J. W. Powell, G. K. Gilbert, G. M. Wheeler, W. J. McGee, and the LeContes, father and son).

Marshall also named several features for John Muir (Mt. Muir, Muir Pass, Muir Grove), and for George M. Wheeler of the Wheeler Survey. Marshall named Sing Peak (10,552 ft) after Tie Sing, a Chinese Cook with the USGS. Alger Lakes and Alger Creek were named after John Alger, packer for the USGS survey under R. B. Marshall, in 1909. Marshall displayed a penchant, incidentally, for naming lakes for women (e. g., he named Lake Helen for one of John Muir's daughters).

Names Given by Francois Matthes, USGS Geomorphologist

Born in Amsterdam, schooled in Switzerland and then in Germany, François E. Matthes (1874–1948) came to the U.S. and earned a degree in civil engineering at M.I.T. in 1895. Employed as a USGS topographer from 1896, he excelled in surveying glacially formed terrain in Montana. His early career also involved mapping in Arizona (the Grand Canyon), Yosemite, and Mt. Rainier in Washington, as well as an interlude of graduate study (1904–05) in geomorphology at Harvard with W. M. Davis. In 1913, shifting from the Topographic Branch to the Geological Branch of the USGS, Matthes was sent to the Sierra Nevada. Research there on glacial erosion remained his primary interest for the remainder of his career. His acclaimed works include studies of glaciation in Yosemite and in Sequoia.

Especially during the 1930s, Matthes made a number of proposals to name Sierra peaks in honor of certain scientific figures. These included the glaciologist Chamberlin, the geophysicist Hale, and the astronomer Pickering. Late in life his admirers put forward a recommendation that an unusually fine Yosemite feature (a glacial "fin") bear his name. After his death, the larger of the glaciers of the Glacier Divide were named after Matthes.



Mt. Lyell (13,114 ft/3,997 m) from the summit of Mt. Maclure (12,886 ft/3,928 m). Photo K. Taylor 1956.

Mt. Lyell and the adjacent Mt. Maclure are two of the most conspicuous summits in Yosemite National Park. Both were named by the Whitney survey. A little known fact is that they were initially named for Lyell and **B. L. Murchison**. But J. D. Whitney evidently had second thoughts during the mid- to later-1860s about the latter name assignment, and changed the it to Maclure.

Theodore Solomons and the Evolution Range

Theodore S. Solomons (1870–1947) was among the earliest to explore and photograph some of the most rugged parts of the Sierra, south of Yosemite and north of Sequoia, in and near what is now Kings Canyon National Park (established in 1940). One of Solomons' most memorable treks took place in 1895, when he made a reconnaissance, accompanied by E. C. Bonner, of the sources of the San Joaquin, looking for a passable trail route crossing into the Kings River drainage. They encountered a cluster of mountains Solomons chose to name after conspicuous figures associated with evolutionary thinking, whom he considered "at one in their devotion to the sublime in Nature." They also gave the name Evolution Lake to one of the lakes in the upper basin beneath these peaks.

Assigning the names of Darwin, Fiske, Haeckel, Huxley, Spencer, and Wallace to six of the most pronounced of these mountains, Solomons and Bonner climbed to the summit of Mt. Wallace (13,377 ft/4,077 m). Their attempt to ascend the tallest of these peaks, Mt. Darwin (13,830 ft/4,215 m), was thwarted, however, when they found their way blocked a few hundred feet below the top.

A decade later Joseph N. LeConte applied the name Evolution Creek to the branch of the San Joaquin flowing out of the basin. In the early 1920s the U. S. Geological Survey named Evolution Valley and Evolution Meadow.

Two other major summits nearby were subsequently given names consistent with Solomons' evolutionary theme. R. G. Marshall's USGS topographical survey for the Mt. Goddard quadrangle (1907–09) named Mt. Lamarck (13,417 ft/4,090 m). In the early 1940s David Brower proposed that the second tallest summit of the group, NW from Darwin, be named Mt. Mendel (13,710 ft/4,179 m).

A charter member of the Sierra Club (1892), Solomons was an advocate and enthusiastic scout for what became the John Muir Trail, running close to the Sierra crest for 211 miles (340 km) between Yosemite and Mt. Whitney. The pass he and Bonner were seeking in 1895 proved as they suspected when they gained a view eastward from Mt. Goddard some days after naming the Evolution group peaks) to be the col at the upper end of Evolution Creek. It was named Muir Pass during the Marshall survey of 1907–09. This is one of the key high passes (11,960 ft/3,645 m) on the John Muir Trail. A previously unnamed peak (13,034 ft/3,973 m) close to Muir Pass was named Mt. Solomons in 1968.



Looking SSE along the range from the summit of Mt. Haeckel (13,435 ft/4,095 m). Photo K. Taylor 1969. Mt. Wallace in the middle foreground.

An official registry of place names in the United States

In common with many other countries, the United States has had an officially constituted bureau for the designation and standardization of place names for over a century. The US Board on Geographic Names (BGN) was established in 1890 by presidential executive order. Since 1934 its administration has been within the Department of the Interior. Its present operation, as part of the U. S. Geological Survey's National Mapping Division, follows legislation passed in 1947. Individuals or groups may make proposals for new names or name changes. BGN maintains a database, the Geographic Names Information System (GNIS).



Square-topped Mt. Powell (13,356 ft/4,071 m) and the debris-covered Powell Glacier. Photo A. Taylor, 1930s.



Mt. Ritter (13,157 ft/4,010 m) and Banner Peak (12,945 ft/3,946 m) above Garnet Lake. Photo K. Okamoto 1972.



Mt. Darwin (13,830 ft/4,215 m) from the northeast. Photo A. Taylor 1935.

Looking north along the range from the summit of Mt. Whitney (14,494 ft/4,418 m). Photo A. Taylor, 1937. Mt. Williamson (14,375 ft/4,381 m) on the right.

Figures in science and engineering for whom Sierra Nevada features are named

Abbot, Henry Larcom (1831–1927). Soldier & engineer (surveyor on Pacific railroad; participant in Panama Canal planning). Mt. Abbot (13,715 ft/4,180 m) named by Whitney Survey, 1864.

Agassiz, Louis (1807–1873). Swiss-American naturalist. Mt. Agassiz (13,893 ft/4,235 m) named 1879 by L. A. Winchell (who called it Agassiz Needle). Also Agassiz Col.

Austin, Mary (1868–1934). Naturalist, author. Mt. Mary Austin (13,051 ft/3,978 m) name suggested by Norman Clyde, approved by BGN 1966.

Barnard, Edward E. (1857–1923). Astronomer. Mt. Barnard (13,990 ft/4,264 m) named by the Hunter brothers, & C. Mulholland, at time of first ascent in 1892.

Brewer, William H. (1828–1910). Whitney Survey member. Mt. Brewer (13,570 ft/4,136 m) named by Whitney Survey, 1864. Also Brewer Creek, Lake.

Campbell, Ian (1899–1978). Geologist, Chief of California Division of Mines & Geology. Mt. Ian Campbell (10,616 ft/3,236 m) named 1982.

Chamberlin, Thomas Chrowder (1843–1928). Mt. Chamberlin (13,169 ft/4,014 m) name suggested by F. Matthes, 1938.

Chittenden, Hiram Martin (1858–1917). Military engineer, historian. Chittenden Peak (9,685 ft/2,952 m). Manner of naming & date unknown.

Cotter, Richard D. (1842–1927). Whitney Survey packer and "man-of-all-work," 1862–64. Mt. Cotter (12,721 ft/3,877 m) named by a Sierra Club party, 1935.

Dana, James Dwight (1813–1895). Geologist, professor at Yale. Mt. Dana (13,053 ft/3,979 m) named by Whitney Survey, 1863. Also Dana Meadows, Plateau, Lake.

Darwin, Charles R. (1809–1882). English naturalist. Mt. Darwin (13,830 ft/4,215 m) named by Solomons & Bonner, 1895. Also Darwin Glacier, Canyon, Bench.

Davis, George R. (1877–1922). Topographical engineer, USGS. Davis Lake name recommended by Sierra Club, 1925. [Mt. Davis named for a different person.]

Day, William C. (1857–1905). Member of S. P. Langley's expedition to Mt. Whitney, 1881; later professor of chemistry at Swarthmore. Day Needle and Keeler Needle (both 14,000 ft+ along crest south of Mt. Whitney summit) named at that time.

Devel, Joseph (dates unknown). Member of the Wheeler Survey, and of a party that made the first ascent in 1875. Mt. Joe Devel (13,325 ft/4,062 m) named by a Sierra Club party, 1937.

Edison, Thomas A. (1847–1931). Inventor. Lake Edison named when lake created by damming Mono Creek, 1950s.

Eisen, Gustav (1847–1940). Swedish-American scientist, conservationist, curator with California Academy of Sciences. Mt. Eisen (12,160 ft/3,706 m); name requested by CAS, 1940.

Ericsson, John (1803–1889). Swedish-American engineer, inventor, ship designer. Mt. Ericsson (Ericsson Crags) (13,608 ft/4,148 m) named by B. C. & L. Brown, 1896.

Fiske, John (1842–1901). Evolutionary philosopher. Mt. Fiske (13,524 ft/4,122 m) named by Solomons, 1895.

Gabb, William M. (1839–1878). Whitney Survey paleontologist. Mt. Gabb (13,741 ft/4,188 m) named by Brewer field party, 1864.

Gardiner, James T. (1842–1912). Whitney Survey member; also on King and Hayden Surveys. Mt. Gardiner (12,907 ft/3,934 m) named by Whitney Survey, 1864. Also Gardiner Pass, Basin, Lakes.

Gibbs, Oliver Walcott (1822–1908). Professor of science at Harvard, friend of Whitney. Mt. Gibbs (12,764 ft/3,890 m) named by F. L. Olmsted & Brewer, 1864.

Gilbert, Grove Karl (1843–1918). Geologist. Mt. Gilbert (13,106 ft/3,995 m). Name proposed by R. B. Marshall, 1911.

Goddard, George Henry (1817–1906). Civil engineer, mapping surveyor. Mt. Goddard (13,568 ft/4,136 m) named by Brewer field party, 1864. Also Goddard Divide, Canyon, Creek.

Goethe, Johann Wolfgang von (1749–1832). German thinker, poet. Mt. Goethe (13,264 ft/4,043 m) suggested by E. G. Gudde, 1949. Also Goethe Glacier, Cirque, & Lake (the latter two by D. Brower).

Goode, Richard U. (1858–1903). USGS topographer & geographer. Mt. Goode (13,092 ft/3,990 m) name applied by USGS survey, early 1900s. (Name initially given to what was already known as Black Giant; transferred in 1920s to present Sierra crest peak near Bishop Pass.)

Grimnell, Joseph (1877–1939). Biologist, director of Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, UC. Grimnell Lake named by Vestal & Talbot (of Calif. Dept. of Fish & Game), 1940

Guyot, Arnold Henri (1807–1884). Swiss-American physical geographer & geologist. Mt. Guyot (12,300 ft/3,749 m) name suggested by J. W. A. Wright & party, 1881. Also Guyot Pass, Creek.

Haeckel, Ernst (1834–1919). German biologist who promoted Darwin's theory in Germany. Mt. Haeckel (13,435 ft/4,095 m) named by Solomons, 1895.

Hale, George Ellery (1868–1938). Solar astronomer. Mt. Hale (13,494 ft/4,113 m) name proposed by Matthes, 1930s.

Henry, Joseph (1797–1878). Physicist, first Secretary of Smithsonian Institution. Mt. Henry (12,196 ft/3,717 m) named by J. N. LeConte, probably 1904.

Hilgard, Eugene W. (1833–1916). Professor of agriculture at UC. Mt. Hilgard (13,361 ft/4,072 m) named by Bonner with Solomons, 1895. Also Hilgard Lake, Branch (of Bear Creek).

Hitchcock, Charles H. (1836–1919). Professor of geology, Dartmouth (son of Edward Hitchcock). Mt. Hitchcock named by Rev. F. H. Wales, 1881 (who had been a student at Dartmouth). Also Hitchcock Lakes.



Mt. Winchell (13,775 ft/4,199 m) and Mt. Agassiz (13,893 ft/4,235 m), seen from the summit of Mt. Gayley (13,510 ft/4,118 m). Photo K. Taylor, 1963.

Hoffmann, Charles Frederick (1838–1913). German-American topographer, geographer with the Whitney Survey. Mt. Hoffmann (10,850 ft/3,307 m) named by Whitney Survey (Brewer), 1863. Also Hoffmann Creek.

Hooper, Selden Stuart (dates unknown). An assistant with the USGS, 1891–98. Selden Pass named by R. B. Marshall, 1911.

Hoover, Theodore J. (1871–1955). Professor of mining and metallurgy at Stanford University, previously manager of Standard Consolidated Mining Co. at Bodie. Brother of Herbert Hoover. Hoover Lakes (Matterhorn quadrangle) named 1905 by a Standard Consolidated engineer.

Humphreys, Andrew Atkinson (1810–1883). Soldier & engineer. Mt. Humphreys (13,986 ft/4,263 m) named by Whitney Survey. Also Humphreys Lakes, Basin.

Hutton, James (1726–1797). Scottish philosopher, geologist. Mt. Hutton (11,998 ft/3,657 m) name suggested by A. C. Gerould, approved BGN 1973.

Huxley, Thomas Henry (1825–1895). English biologist. Mt. Huxley (13,117 ft/3,998 m) named by Solomons, 1895.

Jepson, Willis Linn (1869–1946). American botanist, professor at UC. Mt. Jepson (13,390 ft/4,081 m) named during 1940s.

Johnson, Willard D. (1861–1917). USGS topographer. Mt. Johnson (12,871 ft/3,923 m) name given by R. G. Marshall, 1917, to a peak near Parker Pass. Because the name Johnson Peak already was applied to a summit not far away, the name was later transferred to a peak in the vicinity of Mts. Goode, Gilbert, Thompson, & Powell.

Jordan, David Starr (1851–1931). American ichthyologist, university president (Indiana University, Stanford). Mt. Jordan (13,344 ft/4,067 m) name suggested by Sierra Club, 1925.

Keeler, James Edward (1857–1899). Assistant to Samuel P. Langley on expedition to Mt. Whitney in 1881. Director of Allegheny Observatory (1891–98), then Lick Observatory (1898–99). Keeler Needle (14,239 ft/4,340 m) along crest south of Mt. Whitney summit, named at that time.

Kendrick, Henry L. (1811–1891). American soldier, science teacher. Professor of chemistry at US Military Acad, 1838-47, 1857-80. Kendrick Peak (10,390 ft/3,167 m) named in 1912 by Col. W. W. Forsyth (acting superintendent of Yosemite N. P., 1909-12).

Kern, Edward Meyer (1822/23–1863). Artist, draftsman and topographer with John C. Frémont's third expedition, 1845–46. Kern River named by Frémont at that time. (Various other features—Kern Peak, Canyon, Hot Spring, Lakes—named later, around the turn of the century.)

King, Clarence (1842–1901). Whitney Survey member; first director of USGS. Mt. Clarence King (12,905 ft/3,933 m) named by Brewer field party, 1864.

Lamarck, Jean-Baptiste de (1744–1829). French naturalist. Mt. Lamarck (13,417 ft/4,090 m) named by USGS survey 1907–09. Also Lamarck Creek, named at same time. Lamarck Lakes, Col names applied later.

Langley, Samuel Pierpont (1834–1906). American physicist, astronomer. Director of Allegheny Observatory (1867–87), secretary of the Smithsonian Institution (1887–1906). Led expedition to summit of Mt. Whitney 1881 for experiments on solar heat. Mt. Langley (14,042 ft/4,280 m) was named Sheep Mountain by Clarence King when he climbed it in 1871; the name was changed to Langley 1905.

Lawson, Andrew C. (1861–1952). American geologist, professor at UC. Lawson Peak (13,140 ft/4,005 m) name approved by BGN 1976.

LeConte, Joseph (1823–1901). Professor of geology and natural history, UC, 1869-1901. LeConte Falls named 1894; Mt. LeConte (13,930 ft/4,246 m) in 1895; LeConte Canyon & LeConte Divide named by R. G. Marshall, 1911.

LeConte, Joseph N. (1870–1950). "Little Joe," son of Joseph (above). Professor of engineering mechanics at UC, 1895–1937. Sierra Nevada explorer. LeConte Point named by R. G. Marshall, 1911.

Lippincott, Joseph B. (1864–1942). Hydrographer with USGS and US Reclamation Service; engineer on Owens River Aqueduct. Lippincott Mountain (12,260 ft/3,737 m) named 1903.

Lyell, Charles (1797–1875). British geologist. Mt. Lyell (13,114 ft/3,997 m) named by Brewer and Hoffmann, 1863. Also Lyell Glacier, Lyell fork of Merced River.

Maclure, William (1763–1840). Scottish-American geologist, cartographer. Mt. Maclure (12,886 ft/3,928 m) named by Whitney Survey. Also Maclure Creek.

Matthes, François E. (1874–1948). Dutch-American topographer, geomorphologist. Matthes Crest (10,918 ft/3,328 m) name recommended in 1940s. Also Matthes Lake. Matthes Glaciers on Glacier Divide named 1972.

McAdie, Alexander G. (1863–1943). American meteorologist; ran US Weather Bureau in SF, 1903–13; professor of meteorology at Harvard, 1913–31. Mt. McAdie (13,805 ft/4,208 m) named by a Sierra Club party, 1905.

McClure, Wilbur Fiske (1856–1926). California State Engineer, 1912–26; in charge of selecting final route, and overseeing construction, of John Muir Trail. McClure Meadow named ca. 1920.

McGee, Wilbur John (1853–1912). American geologist, hydrologist, ethnologist. Mt. McGee (12,969 ft/3,953 m) probably named during 1907–09 USGS survey. (McGee Creek, Lakes, Pass named for others, early residents in the area.)

Mendel, Gregor (1822–1884). Silesian scientist, founder of genetics. Mt. Mendel (13,710 ft/4,179 m) name proposed by David Brower, early 1940s.

Mercur, James (1842–1896). Professor of civil and military engineering at West Point. Mercur Peak (8,096 ft/2,468 m) named 1912 by Col. W. W. Forsyth.

Merriam, C. Hart (1855–1942). American naturalist. Merriam Peak (13,103 ft/3,994 m) named 1929.

Morgan, J. H. (dates unknown). Member of the Wheeler Survey; from Alabama. Mt. Morgan (13,748 ft/4,190 m) named by Wheeler Survey, 1878. Also Morgan Creek, Lake, named by USGS early 1900s.

Muir, John (1838–1914). Naturalist and conservationist. Mt. Muir (14,012 ft/4,271 m) named by Marshall. Muir Gorge, Grove, Lake, Pass; John Muir Trail.

Newcomb, Simon (1835–1909). Canadian-American astronomer. Mt. Newcomb (13,410 ft/4,087 m) name proposed by Sierra Club, 1930s.

Owens, Richard (1812–1902). Member of John C. Frémont's third expedition (1845–46). Owens Lake named by the expedition. River, Valley, Peak, Point followed.

Pickering, Edward Charles (1846–1919). American astronomer, physicist. Mt. Pickering (13,485 ft/4,110 m) name suggested by Matthes, 1930s.

Powell, John Wesley (1834–1902). American explorer, scientist. Second director of the USGS, 1881–1894. Mt. Powell (13,356 ft/4,071 m) named by R. B. Marshall, early 1900s. Also Powell Glacier.

Ritter, Karl (1779–1859). German geographer. Mt. Ritter (13,157 ft/4,010 m) named by the Whitney Survey, 1864. (Ritter, one of the founders of modern geography, was a professor at Berlin when Whitney had studied there in 1840.)

Russell, Israel C. (1852–1906). Geologist (with the Wheeler Survey, USGS, and Univ. of Michigan). Mt. Russell (14,094 ft/4,296 m) named early 1900s (by Marshall?).

Selden. See Hooper.

Silliman, Benjamin, Jr. (1816–1885). Professor of chemistry at Yale. Mt. Silliman (11,188 ft/3,410 m) named by Brewer field party, 1864. (Brewer had studied agricultural chemistry under Silliman.)

Spencer, Herbert (1820–1903). British evolutionist. Mt. Spencer (12,431 ft/3,789 m) named by Solomons, 1895.

Spiller, J. Calvert (dates unknown). Topographical assistant with Macomb field party of Wheeler Survey 1878–79. Spiller Creek, Lake: names from late 19th century.

Thompson, Almon Harris (1839–1906). Explorer, USGS geographer 1882–1906. Mt. Thompson (13,494 ft/4,113 m) named by R. B. Marshall, ca. 1908. Also Thompson Ridge, Lake.

Turner, Henry Ward (1857–1937). USGS cartographer. Turner Lake, BGN 1963.

Tyndall, John (1820–1893). British physical scientist. Mt. Tyndall (14,019 ft/4,273 m) named by Clarence King, 1864, when he and Richard Cotter climbed it. Tyndall Creek named later.

Wallace, Alfred Russel (1823–1913). British naturalist. Mt. Wallace (13,377 ft/4,077 m) named by Solomons, 1895.

Warren, Gouverneur Kemble (1820–1882). Army topographical engineer, collaborator with Humphreys. Mt. Warren (12,327 ft/3,757 m) named by Whitney Survey.

Wheeler, George M. (1842–1905). Engineer, surveyor. Head of Army's US Geographical Surveys West of the 100th Meridian (Wheeler Survey). Wheeler Ridge (Mt. Morgan quadrangle) named 1911 by R. B. Marshall.

Whitney, Josiah Dwight (1819–1896). Geologist, head of California Geological Survey, 1860–74 (Whitney Survey). Mt. Whitney (14,494 ft/4,418 m) named by King & Cotter, 1864. Also Whitney Pass, Creek, Meadow, Portal.

Williamson, Major Robert S. (1824–1882). Army engineer, leader of railroad surveys. Mt. Williamson (14,375 ft/4,381 m) named by Clarence King, 1864. Also Williamson Bowl.

Winchell, Alexander (1824–1891). State Geologist of Michigan, professor of geology at Univ. of Michigan. Name Mt. Winchell given to a peak south of the Palisades in 1879 by Lilbourne A. Winchell (son of A.W.'s cousin Elisha C. Winchell), transferred to present Mt. Winchell (13,775 ft/4,199 m) in USGS Survey of early 1900s.