

Origination of Kibling Street Name

Troutdale's historic street names come from the community's pioneer families and earliest residents. Troutdale's old City Hall is on Kibling Street, named for Joseph and Dora Kibling, whose donation land claim covered much of the area where downtown Troutdale is located. Joseph Kibling was linked to the John Harlow family, builders of the Harlow House, and is buried in the Harlow family plot at Lone Fir Cemetery in Portland.



Recently a Peter Kibling of central Massachusetts conducted a search for his name on the Internet and came up with Troutdale's Kibling Street. An exchange of e-mail established that Troutdale's Joseph Kibling was an ancestor of Peter Kibling of Massachusetts. The family name was Kiblinger, when they immigrated from Germany in 1758. Some of that family came west in the 1800s. "I remember my father telling me that I had a distant relative who was the first person to sail a steamship up the Columbia River. Could this have been Joseph or one of his children?," wrote the Massachusetts Kibling.