



# HAWTHORNE

## Fine Art

### **Fannie Barber McClanahan (Rudd) (1926)**

Fannie Barber McClanahan was born in 1858 in Independence, Missouri to Sarah (Jones) and Porter H. McClanahan. Her father, a native of Kentucky, settled in Independence in 1841 where he worked in the harness business. He served as the town's postmaster from 1854 to 1865.<sup>1</sup>

In 1883, Fannie married Anson Spencer Rudd who was notable as the first Anglo-Saxon child born in Cañon City, Colorado. According to Federal census records from 1900 Rudd was employed as a grocery salesman and was later involved in the newspaper business for a short time. Rudd was employed as an editor and publisher of the Boulder Times between 1904 and 1906 before retiring from the position.<sup>2</sup> By 1910, he was working as an organizer for Woodmen of the World, a not-for-profit life insurance society.<sup>3</sup> He held the position of state organizer for Woodmen of the World until 1919 when he and Fannie left Colorado to settle on the Pacific Coast.<sup>4</sup>

Rudd's parents, Harriet and Anson Rudd, were early pioneers of Cañon City. Rudd, Sr. was a blacksmith who served as the first sheriff of Fremont County, the first clerk of Cañon City, the first county commissioner and was elected first Lt. Governor of Jefferson Territory which preceded Colorado Territory. The Rudd's were among a small group that remained in Cañon City during the Civil War. In 1881, the Rudd family built a stone house beside the cabin they resided in for two decades. The house was occupied by Rudd Sr. and his wife Harriet until 1904 when they left for Boulder to live with their son.<sup>5</sup>

While information regarding Fannie's life is scarce, a few artifacts from her life and that of her daughters can be found today in the collection of the Royal Gorge Regional Museum & History Center in Cañon City, Colorado. These include a pair of Fannie's earrings, a painting c. 1920 by her daughter Edith Irma Rudd, and a copy of *Wives and Daughters* by her daughter Jean Rudd published in 1931.

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<sup>1</sup> "In Independence," The Kansas City Times (Kansas City, Missouri) Fri, Apr 7, 1893, 8.

<sup>2</sup> "Thad Butler Buys Partner's Interest," The Huntington Herald (Huntington, Indiana), Mon, Jul 2, 1906, 6.

<sup>3</sup> Federal census records from 1900, 1910

<sup>4</sup> "Local News," The Fort Collins Express (Fort Collins, Colorado) Wed, Apr 2, 1919, 3.

<sup>5</sup> "City Museum in Canon City..." Colorado Springs Gazette-Telegraph (Colorado Springs, Colorado) Sun, May 16, 1971, 107.



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Today, the Rudd Cabin and the Rudd House are included on the Colorado State Register of Historic Places.<sup>6</sup>

Fannie Barber McClanahan Rudd died in Oakland, California on October 24, 1926.<sup>7</sup>

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<sup>6</sup> “About Us,” Royal Gorge Regional Museum & History Center accessed July 30, 2021 via [https://museum.canoncito.org/?page\\_id=1096](https://museum.canoncito.org/?page_id=1096)

<sup>7</sup> “Died,” Oakland Tribune (Oakland, California), Mon, Oct 25, 1926, 31.