



Why Did They Name It That? by Jimmie Close

Portland, Oregon: Francis Pettygrove was from Maine and A. L. Lovejoy was from Massachusetts. The two men established a town site on the western bank of the Wilamette River in the mid-nineteenth century. Pettygrove wanted to name the new town after Portland, Maine, while Lovejoy favored Boston.

Today, after paying lawyers thousands of dollars to resolve the issue, a compromise might be proposed to name the new town after a place between Portland and Boston - perhaps Concord. But, these two very civilized gentleman decided to flip a coin, and Pettygrove won the toss.

Pettygrove and Lovejoy have streets named after them in the area of the original town site.