

Butte Falls History

Bill Tucker found this info while cleaning a desk out. We don't know when it was written but guessing around 1971 or 72 going by where people were living at the time. I read it to Dale and Alvin Thompson and they gave me a little more insight. Not, that we know if it's correct or not, but its fun to try and figure it all out.

Frank Netherland homesteaded on the North Fork of Butte Creek in the 1890's, moving to Butte Falls about 1900. He was mill wright and superintendent of the old mill at Butte Falls from its beginning till it closed in 1918. He helped build several houses that are still being lived in in Butte Falls.

Frank Carson built the first confectionary and barber shop in Butte Falls in 1910, later becoming a tavern and now the home of Leroy Thompson. ***(The old boarding house that Leroy Thompson purchased from Hugh Crenshaw)***

Aerias Cross built the hotel in 1910, now the home of Alvin Thompson. ***(Also the old boarding house where the last Tavern was owned by the Stritenbergs. Alvin rented from LeRoy)***

Nate Stoddard built a hardware store next to the hotel in 1910 and was used as the Butte Falls Post Office for a number of years later becoming the Co-Op store. ***(Northern end of old boarding house).***

Dade Marghy built a store in 1910 next to the hardware store which was used as a grocery store for many years. For its last few years it was known as the Evergreen Grocery. ***(Same boarding house)***

A man by the name of Richard built a store in 1904, the first grocery store in town. In 1906 it sold out to J.P. Hughes who ran the grocery store till the early 1920s selling it to Jim Simmerville and Everett Faber of Central Point. Several years later they built the present grocery store and the Hughes building became the local theater and then the present tavern. ***(Where the Butte Falls Grocery store is now)***

Silas Briggs built the first drug store in 1910 next to the Richard's Building. The drug store later became a restaurant in that capacity for a number of years. It was the first Post Office in Butte Falls. ***(In 1958 Cathy Olsen had the restaurant. It was where the mobile home is now north of the boarding house)***

Al and Buell Hildreth built a confectionary and a card room where the present grocery store now stands. It was a two story building and the upstairs was used as a meeting place and dance hall until it burned down about 1915.

John Cadzow built a dry goods store in 1910 where the present city hall now stands. It was a two story building with the upstairs being used as a dance hall and later made into rooms for rent. This building was also used as a post office for a number of years.

In 1910 Mr. Erikson built a card room and dance hall on the property just north of the Community Hall later selling it to Loren Moore and Lewis Dooms who ran it for some time. The first telephone office was also located on this property for a number of years. ***(Assembly of God Church property now)***

In 1910 George Barker, president of the Pine Belt Banking Company built a two storied wooden building on the corner of Oak and Broad Street. The down stairs was used as a bank and the upstairs was used as a dwelling. In 1912 this building burned down and they replaced the wooden structure. The bank closed its doors for good in 1928 following the suicide of George Barker. ***(I think, the actor, Edgar Buchanan had something to do with this building also, when he lived here.)***

Submitted by Cory Hamann
Big Butte Historical Society