

Heppner's Founding

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erect a store building. Lumber was hauled from Van Armen's mill at the head of Butter Creek. Henry Heppner went off to buy goods and to haul it to the new store.

The Extension Unit's 1959 booklet, Yesteryears of Morrow, reports: As soon as the Heppner-Morrow structure had been roofed and floored, the people in the surrounding country decided it was time for a celebration and accordingly a big dance was planned. Word was sent out over the area and families, as far away as fifty miles came bringing with them provisions and blankets. It is reported that the only ones who did any sleeping were children under twelve who were considered too young to dance. The music was provided by Lew Trainer and John Crawford, the fiddlers of the community. About the 10th of August, 1872, Heppner and Morrow were open for business (Pg. 41)

The Yesteryears booklet states: Before 1873 the mail came from Scott's Postoffice on the John Day River or from Umatilla Landing. In 1873, Mr. Morrow, with the aid of Congressman Slater, succeeded in establishing mail service between Pendleton and The Dalles, with a postoffice in Heppner. George Stansbury was honored by being appointed the first postmaster. The new office occupied a six-foot square space in the corner of the

Heppner-Morrow store. (Pg. 42)

Significant Developments 1875-1900

In 1877 George Stansbury's portion of the townsite passed to T.W. Ayers; Wells Fargo & Co. put in an express office, appointing J.L. Morrow as agent. Mr. Shortridge put up a shoe shop and Mr. E. Nordyke started a wagon shop. A flouring mill was started before this date by an old man named Mr. Beagle, who built it largely by the aid of contributions from citizens, who were to be repaid in grinding. Later O.H. Hallock became a half-owner in the mill and in 1878 Dennis De Porte and I.G. Hewison took it over and greatly improved it. In 1877 the first church building was erected

by the Baptists. Previously the school house was open to use by all denominations and

show that Rev. J.C. Kirkman, a member of the Columbia River Conference, came re-

date the record of a continuous line of service by that denomination has been preserved.

meetings were held at varying intervals by several groups. Methodist Church records

regularly as he was in 1876 in charge of a circuit of which Heppner was part. Since that

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Down by the old Mill Stream.....the old grist mill wheel as it lay on the bank of Willow Creek. Not too far from the site of the old mill.

Dick and Lynnea Sargent welcome you to their store!



Main St., Heppner

- Home Furnishings
- Sporting Goods
- Paint and Wallpaper
- Housewares
- Hardware
- Electrical Supplies
- Plumbing
- Kitchen Tools
- Lawn and Garden
- Automotive
- Toys

Blue Luster Dealer



Coast to Coast Store

"Where your dollar does the most."