

## Beauty of Courthouse withstood time and tides

In February of 1902 Edgar M. Lazarus, Portland architect and contractor, was awarded the contract for the Morrow County Courthouse. Frank DuPrat was contracted for the masonry work in May of that year. The courthouse is built of blue basalt, quarried on the Osmin ranch, up Balm Fork Canyon near Heppner. The trim rock is of sandstone, believed to have been quarried near Elgin, Or.

The tower clock and \$2,500 toward the cost of construction were donated to the county by the citizens of Heppner.

Laurence and Louis Monerastelli, well-known stone masons in Eastern Oregon, cut and trimmed the stone for the entire building. The brothers, who were born in Lotta, Fanano, Modena, Italy, did masonry for the Christian and Catholic churches in Pendleton, St. Elizabeth's Hospital in Baker, and a number of other buildings in Eastern Oregon. They also made hundreds of headstones in cemeteries throughout Morrow and Umatilla counties.

The courthouse, built on the site of a previous wooden structure was completed in March 1903, just three months before the catastrophic flood that destroyed much of Heppner.

The original structure cost around \$33,000 to build. According to an assessment, the vault in the county clerk's office and matching vault in the basement would cost \$47,000 to replace, more than the original cost of the courthouse. The total replacement cost of the courthouse is estimated to be at least \$700,000.

The courthouse has been in use ever since and is one of the few remaining courthouses in Oregon constructed at the turn of the century.

The medallions on the ceilings throughout the courthouse are placed where the original brass light fixtures with glass shades originally hung.

The thick walls in the assessor's office once surrounded the county jail. The old jail is now used as the appraiser's office and a computer room.



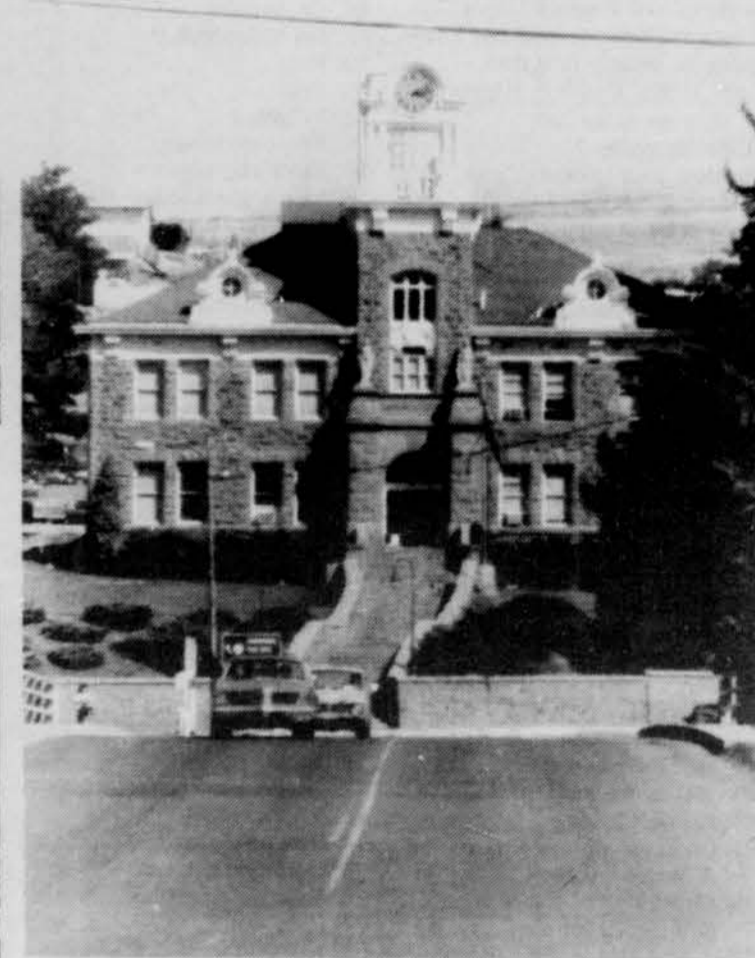
Morrow County Courthouse, shortly after completion in 1903.



Devastation of 1903 Heppner flood

Most of the furniture in the Clerk's office is believed to be what is left of the original furniture.

In the main floor hall, there are several historic photographs. One is a wide view of Heppner in the year 1929, another is of the courthouse taken around 1915. An oil painting of the courthouse was painted by Sylvia McDaniel, who was Morrow County Treasurer for many years. By the front door are original certificates of appointment for the first county officials in 1885, when Morrow County became a county.



Morrow County Courthouse 1990

### Home stay search interesting

The home stay search in Heppner for Cycle Oregon III bicyclists has been very interesting, says Judie Laughlin, coordinator. "People started calling back in May for beds, long before things on this end were formulated. We have placed 108 people in homes and RV's as of August 27 and have two more to place. We do have a few backup beds, so it won't be a problem."

"People have been great offering their homes", continued Judie, "especially towards the end. We've had phone calls from as far away as Columbus, Ohio, New Orleans and New Jersey."

"One couple even discovered the cyclist staying with them had gone to high school with the lady of the house. We've placed a Jones with a Jones and a Joyce with a Joyce and have discovered this group is from all ages and out to have a good time!"



Open Sunday 12 p.m. - 5 p.m.

**Gardner's** MEN'S WEAR

193 N. Main St. Heppner

## Schedule of Events

### Sunday, September 9

- 7:30 a.m. -Cycle Oregon III bicyclists leave Pendleton
- 8:30 a.m. -Cycle Oregon support people begin arriving Heppner
- 10:00 a.m. -Dave and Brian from Cycle III arrive for area layout
- 10:00 a.m. -Welcome committee at fairgrounds  
-Gatorade served by the Morrow County Tourism committee at the 4-H Snack Shack at fairgrounds
- 12 noon -Cyclists begin to arrive  
-High School Students on hand for baggage help and tent set-up  
-Downtown merchants open for business  
-Shuttles available to downtown (horse drawn carts and hayrides)
- 1:00 p.m. -Museum open, Main St.
- 1-6 p.m. -Shuttles available to Willow Creek Lake, Main St. by museum
- 1-6 p.m. -Corps of Engineers booth open, Willow Creek Dam
- 4-8 p.m. -Dinner at Heppner Middle School grounds-entertainment
- 5:15-6:15 p.m. -Dinner entertainment-Jeff Wallace, Heppner Middle School
- 6:15-8 p.m. -Heppner Jazz Band, Heppner Middle School
- 6-10 p.m. -Street dance with Dan Burns/3D Productions, behind Central Market
- 6-10 p.m. -Cow chip throwing contest-behind Central Market
- 6-10 p.m. -Beer gardens & concessions behind Central Market
- 7-9 p.m. -Guided Courthouse tour
- All Day -Elks all-day buffet, Main St.
- All Day -T-shirts available at Gatorade booth, fairgrounds, and entertainment area, behind Central Market

### Monday, September 10

- 5:30-9 a.m. -Breakfast at Heppner City Park, Main St.

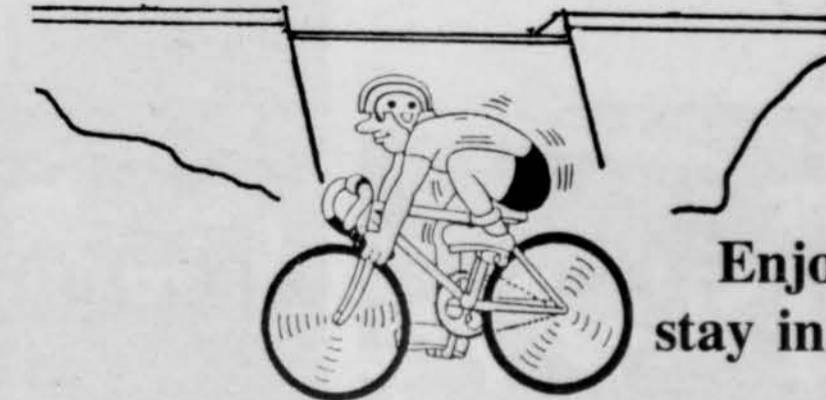
### Hardman—A Surviving Ghost Town

The ghost town of Hardman is located twenty miles south of Heppner on Highway 207. Settled in the 1870's, it was variously known as Dairyville, Raw Dog, and Yellow Dog until Dave Hardman brought the post office to town in 1882. Soon thereafter it took the name of Hardman and flourished until the railroad was built to Heppner in the 1920's. Despite the ravages of time, a few buildings remain and may be seen as you drive through. Many of these buildings are occupied and there is a small but active membership in the Hardman Community Center.

### Bikers Delight



St. Patrick's Altar Society is selling **PIE, COFFEE & ICE TEA** in back of the Union Building, Sun. Sept. 9 1 p.m. till ?  
**COME JOIN US.**



Enjoy your stay in Heppner



Heppner's early days. Looking down mainstreet date unknown.

These local businesses say *Welcome Bicyclists*

- Columbia Basin Electric Cooperative
- Heppner T.V. Incorporated
- Morrow County Abstract and Title
- Cal's Service Center
- Sears
- Cal's Cafe & Lounge
- Court Street Market
- Les Schwab Tires
- Sweeney Mortuary
- Morrow County Grain Growers
- Penland House—Larry & Darlene Scroggins
- Pettyjohn's Farm & Builders Supply
- R&W Drive-In

Heppner Elks #358  
Welcomes  
**CYCLE OREGON III**

Buffet served ALL DAY  
Sunday, September 9

Homemade Desserts Cold Beer

LIVE MUSIC Sunday night  
by KICKERS

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Heppner Elks 358  
676-9181 "Where Friends Meet" 142 N. Main

