

Matney

I am very thankful to Cheri who was the prior coordinator.

History

Some of this information is courtesy the State of Oregon

Post Office (June 12, 1895-April 23, 1896), for a short time in history, became one of the most popular places in southern Wasco Co., since mail from "home" was infrequently received and much appreciated. The Post Office was founded by Isaac MATNEY who came to Wasco County from Kansas in 1885. It was located on upper Mill Creek at the foot of the James M. Hartman Grade about 12 miles southwest of The Dalles.

Some 30-40 families on upper Mill Creek came to Matney to pick up their mail. Isaac brought the mail out along with supplies for the mill from The Dalles. Isaac had a small store and post office there. He also contracted with Sam JOHNS to haul supplies from The Dalles to Johns' lumber mill nearby. Johns established the mill in 1886.

Some of the other original settlers at Matney were James Hartman, Jake Babcock, P.G. Whetmore, C.W. Whetmore, Al Turner, Kent Turner, Jack Davis, Sam Johns, Lloyd Mitchell, Walter Scott, Mr. Clark, Mr. Fancher and sons William and Douglas Fancher, and Vess Fox. Later residents were Bert and Charlie Wyatt, Peter Fagan with sons Guy and Hugh came in 1893. Mr. Wise and Arthur Day came in 1908. Glenn Hammond arrived in 1910 and A.J. Preston came 1909 with Lester Marquiss arriving later (may have had some relationship to Isaac Matney).

A nearby, related landmark is Matney Flat, located southeast of Condon (now in Gilliam County) which takes its name from H.C. Matney who settled there in 1872. Matney Post Office (December 4, 1886 to April 20, 1892) with postmaster Godfrey Schilling was probably located near Matney School at this location.

Isaac Matney was born January, 1830 in VA, married Margaret, born May, 1830 in Missouri. Their children were Charles, born December, 1872, Eva, born April, 1883 in Kansas, Frank, born February, 1885 (from 1900 Wasco County Census). The following children were born after 1900: Roy (died young), Jenny who married Al Turner, and Ivy who married Jack Davis. Frank and Ivy went to California, Charlie lived in Portland. Jenny lived on upper Mill Creek and her daughter Grace married James Gosson. Isaac Matney died February 18, 1910.

Parts of the information above comes from notes prepared by Grace

Gosson, who was a granddaughter of Isaac Matney. Much of the information about the settlement of Matney was copied from a 3-ring binder in the genealogy collection of the Clark County, Washington Genealogy Society.

If anyone has more information about Matney or about the Matney family, please contact the webmaster.

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