

We would like to dedicate  
our book to Mrs. Dodds, for  
the hours of work she spent  
to put it together.

and to Mr. Johnstone and  
Mrs. Vogeltanz, for the gen-  
erosity of their time and  
patience.

## INTRODUCTION

This book has been compiled by Mrs. Stafford and the Team 4 students. We have tried to include all the facts we have collected about Hillsboro. We realize we have left out many more facts, but these may be coming in a future book, as we have many questions still unanswered.

Our facts and figures are based on interviews we have had with old time residents of Hillsboro and are as accurate as we could get them.

The principle researchers and writers are;

- |                    |                  |
|--------------------|------------------|
| 1. Zennette Lagler | 6. Pam Faller    |
| 2. Brian Lane      | 7. Mona Stevens  |
| 3. Jill Anderson   | 8. Alan Compton  |
| 4. Greg Van Dyke   | 9. Susan Hohbach |
| 5. Lisa King       | 10. Linda Terry  |

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

History of Hillsboro	1
Hillsboro's Police Department	3
Hillsboro's Fire Department	6
Hillsboro's Water System	9
Hillsboro's Schools	12
Hillsboro Post Office	18
Early Business - Weil's Department Store	21
Newspaper	23
Transportation	28
Recreation of Hillsboro	32
Collected Facts About Hillsboro	40

# THE HISTORY OF HILLSBORO

Mr. Erwert

In 1849, before Oregon was a state, California had a gold rush. Everyone was moving to California, so a Donation Land Claim was passed. It was passed in 1850, and was in act until 1855. If people would settle in Oregon they could have one square mile of land, free. The population grew from 18,000 to 30,000. First the fertile land by the rivers was taken. One man named Mr. Hill sub-divided his land, drew streets, and established a townsite in 1850. Hillsboro became a city officially in 1876. In 1880, when the first actual census was taken, the population was 402. Then, Hillsboro covered just over 1-1/2 square miles, or 1,016 acres, of land. It was 80 years old before any more land was annexed to the city.

For many years our part of Washington County was called Tualatin County. Hillsboro was the county seat. Portland was very small then, so people from Portland had to ride the train to Hillsboro to pay their taxes or conduct

official government business. Imagine that!

Now our city is 9.38 square miles. In 1910 the population was 2,016. In 1950 the population was 5,140. In 1960 the population was 8,230. In 1970 the population was 14,675. From 1960-1972 the population more than doubled, because of the annex and people moving in. The population was 19,160 in July of 1975. In 1970 we had more population than Beaverton. Now Beaverton has over 4,000 more.

The first streets of Hillsboro were all in nice square blocks. Now the streets in Hillsboro aren't grid pattern, causing other roads to curve. This causes cars to travel more slowly, but it also causes some problems.

In Hillsboro there is Birchwood Lane, Birchwood Drive, Birchwood Court, Birchwood Circle, etc. This causes confusion, especially when there is a fire and accurate street identification is important for fire trucks.

The streets in the main part of Hillsboro to the north of Main Street are named after presidents. Other streets are named after trees.

## HISTORY OF THE POLICE DEPARTMENT

### Chief DeRock

Chief DeRock was appointed Chief of Police on September 1, 1947. At that time he was the fifth officer hired as Chief of Police. He started his police career in Florence, Oregon. He quit in Florence and joined the Navy. Then he went to Newport and was a policeman there. After that he left Newport and went to Hillsboro. He came in July and was appointed in September. At that time they were looking for a chief because the last Chief of Police, who was Mr. Freeman had retired.

When Mr. DeRock came, Mr. Barney, who was City Manager for over thirty years, had been the Acting Chief three years before Mr. DeRock. As of today he is the oldest Chief of Police working in Oregon to stay in one place. No other chief has been in one city for so long.

He has watched Hillsboro grow. When he came it was 4,000 people--now it's 19,160.

I do not know how old the Police Department is.

When he started, you had to furnish your own radio and car. Hillsboro was the first town to get radio equipment. The telephone company was right next door and when they wanted a policeman the people would call the telephone operator and she would flip on a light in the police station. The police would call the telephone company and they would tell them what was the matter. Sometimes when they came back from one call the light would be on for another. People just had to wait.

Chief DeRock said that police were respected a great deal more when he first started than now.



Early crime in Hillsboro used to be fights and minor things--no "heavy" crimes. Now we have lots of robberies and dope-connected crimes.

Chief DeRock got started being a policeman when he was working in a lumber camp. They had a one-man police department, so when Saturday came he would help out. He liked this weekend job so he decided to do it full time.

Before DeRock came to Hillsboro, it was a small one to three-man operation with no filing system and no equipment. Now it boasts one of the finest filing systems in Oregon and is very modern for a town the size of Hillsboro.

By Alan Compton

## FIRE DEPARTMENT

Mr. Tews

We interviewed Mr. Tews, an old time resident, about how the early Fire Department was run.

Mr. Tews started working for the city in 1905. He was the Chief of Police for awhile, but he really liked being the Fire Chief. He had this job for many years.

When the Fire Department first started the Chief was on call all the time. Then there were fifteen men who volunteered to come when there was a fire. The volunteers were paid \$2.50

per month. The Chief was paid \$2.75 per week. This was a fine salary in those days!

Most of the fires were farm fires-- fields burned or barns did. Barns were the hardest to put out and were very dangerous.

When the fire was reported a big bell was rung at the Fire Hall. This bell is now standing on the front lawn of the Washington County Museum. Then later a siren was put on top of the Fire Station and another for country fires on top of the Mid High School building.

The firemen would run to the Fire Hall and pull (by hand) a big cart with all the hoses and equipment.

After a few years of all the hand-pulling, they made a contract with a local horse and wagon freight company. The first wagon to get to the Fire Department when the siren rang got paid to carry the hoses to the fire.

Then the Department got a horse! This helped a lot. When there was a fire they all rushed to hook the horse to the wagon. They could do it in three minutes! This horse was a great help to the firemen.

In 1922 the firemen got together and built their first fire truck out of an old truck. They also got a tank truck, which they made.

When there was a big fire all the men available came to help fight it.

The firemen held dances and sponsored the Fourth of July celebration to make money to buy new equipment for the Department.

Hillsboro was very proud of the Fire Department and the volunteers did many community things.

## WATER

Mr. Barney

The first water system was a well located off Seventh Street by the First Baptist Church. The second well was in a field west of Hillsboro, but soon we needed more water, so the first pipe line was laid in 1912 and 1914. It was wood, about 1/2 inch thick and 12 inches around. The pipe was wrapped with steel wire to make it water tight. The pipe line started at Hillsboro and went up the highway through Cornelius to the east edge of Forest Grove; then it went down by Carnation Mill and followed the

old highway up to Scoggin Creek. Last, but not least, it followed the road up to Sain Creek and met the first intake on Sain Creek.

About 17 miles of pipe and the water served the city of Hillsboro and the farms along the side of the pipe. Later they built another pipe to connect with the first Hillsboro pipe. This pipe went through and served the city of Beaverton and the Aloha area. This pipe was the only water supply they had until about 1947 or 1948.

Later, in about 1949, the city of Hillsboro bought the whole water system. They knew they didn't have enough water, so they got some water from the Tualatin River. They decided to build another line. It was on the Tualatin River. It was an 18 inch steel pipe. It followed almost the same route as the 12 inch pipe line had. The intake was at Lee Falls. Twenty-two miles of pipe line was built in 1949. This took two years. It can deliver about four million gallons of water a day to the towns of Hillsboro, Cornelius and Aloha. By this time Beaverton had its own water system.

This is the water system we have today, with some improvements. Later Hillsboro took some water from the Trask River. In 1969 we built a dam on the Trask River. This was way on the other side of the Coast Range.

Hillsboro has a huge water tank, which was built to hold one day's water supply of four million gallons. It was a newly designed water tank and one man was killed while building it.

Now we have a new reservoir at Scoggin Valley Dam called Haag Lake. This water is reserved for future and emergency use.

The reservoir at the Trask River is closed to recreation. We use this water for our town. This lake has now been named for Mr. Barney, who was the man behind the building of the great water system of Hillsboro.

By Mona Stevens

## SCHOOLS

Mr. Mooberry

School District No. 7 was established in 1851 by Reverend Horace Lyman. Mr. Lyman was a teacher at the Tualatin Academy in Forest Grove and served as the School Commissioner for Washington County. He established a lot of school districts after he became Commissioner. Hillsboro was made District No. 7. He was paid \$15 a month. After establishing the Hillsboro School District, three directors had to be elected. One of them had to serve as clerk. Harvey W. Wilcox was the first clerk. D. H. Belknap and



G. H. Smith were the first directors. They did this in 1852. They had to buy land, build a school house, and find a good teacher.

They paid \$50 for two lots which were on Third and Baseline. They built a small school house made like a log cabin. Everyone helped build the school. A teacher wasn't hired until 1853. Cushing Eels taught at this school for four years. Some children walked two or three miles to school every day. They had school during the winter and didn't have holidays for Christmas and New Year's Day.

After awhile there were too many people and another school had to be built. It was right in front of a log building. It became too small so another larger school had to be built. It was a three-room building. They built it in front of the old school room, so they could use the old school as an extra room. It had a bell tower, but no bell. The teacher rang a hand bell to get the children inside the building. Sometimes there wasn't enough money to pay the teacher and the children's parents had to pay a few dollars for each child

attending school. This was called a subscription school.

From 1862-1865 there was a private school in Hillsboro. It was run by Mr. and Mrs. William Adams. This was where Bagley Park is now. They built a house with a room big enough for a school room. Mrs. Adams taught there and taught the girls how to sew and cook. Mr. Adams was superintendent. They planted the big trees that are at Bagley Park, because they wanted shade on their house. Mrs. Adams died in 1867 so the school was closed. The children had to go to public schools. The school got too crowded so the directors began to look for another location. They found a place which is now David Hill.

They had some new directors now. Their names were T. H. Tongue, P. M. Jackson and T. U. Humphries. They all wanted a big school so they made an eight room building with a basement. It was Hillsboro's fourth public school. It was dedicated in 1889. It was enlarged twice. They built two rooms on this building, one upstairs and one downstairs. They built them on the south side of the school.

They built the first high school called Northern School. It is now B. W. Barnes. It was built in 1913, and was Hillsboro's fifth school. In 1922 they built a three room building for elementary grades. It later was named Peter Boscow. It was the sixth building. It was enlarged several times.

The schools were referred to as the North School and the South School, until 1930, when the schools were named B. W. Barnes, Peter Boscow, and David Hill. Mr. Barnes was the principal for high school grades. Peter Boscow was clerk for Hillsboro schools. David Hill served as clerk longer than any other clerk.

David Hill had the first public paid kindergarten. Mrs. Mooberry made the first hot lunch. She made a big pot of soup, and the kids brought their own cups and two cents and got a cup of soup. The parents brought vegetables to put in the soups. It became popular so the directors made a room to be a cafeteria. David Hill had the first teachers that gave special help.

By 1929 they had so many high school students they had to move them to the Mid High. Then the sixth, seventh and eighth grades moved into B. W. Barnes.

The new David Hill was started in 1947. The classes began in 1948. The old David Hill was torn down and the gymnasium and cafeteria took its place. This was the eighth school in Hillsboro. It was a modern school and school boards from all over Oregon and Washington came to see it.

Brookwood was ready to occupy its building in January 1954. The first Christmas program was held at Brookwood. Students ate at tables in the hall. It was the ninth building.

The next building was the Junior High, which was all finished in 1960. It was the tenth school that had been built in Hillsboro.

The modern buildings had started November 1, 1963. It was the eleventh building. Brown Junior High was built in 1962-1963. It was Hillsboro's twelfth school. W. L. Henry was built September 19, 1968, in the southeast part of Hillsboro. It was the thirteenth school. Union High School Building was ready for classes in 1969. It was the fourteenth school building. McKinney was built in the northwest part of Hillsboro. It was the fifteenth school building.

In the early schools, the desks were split logs. If there were lots of children they had to sit three in a seat. The teacher taught from books, but there were very few textbooks, usually only one for every three students. The children first learned to read from the Bible. Children brought their own family Bibles to school with them.

By Jill Anderson

## POST OFFICE

Mr. Holznagel

We visited Mr. Holznagel, who was one of our early Post Masters in Hillsboro.

He told us about the history of the Hillsboro Post Office.

Mr. Holznagel came to Hillsboro in 1912 and started work in the Post Office that same year.

At this time the Post Office was a small building located on the corner of Third and Main, where LaHaie's Men's Shop is today.

There were only three employees, who worked seven days per week. Mr. Holznagel started work on a Sunday!

In 1922 they moved the Post Office down the Main Street between First and Second across from the Court House.

Hillsboro was very lucky to be chosen for the site of a new Post Office building in 1934. They started to build it then and moved in to the present Post Office in 1935. They still had three employees and had added five mail carriers. Now there are about 35 employees at the Post Office.

We have had 8 Post Masters. The first one is unremembered, but from 1915 they are Mr. Lampkin (until 1920), Mr. Henry Ball (until 1923), Mr. Holznagel (until 1937), Mr. McPheeters (until 1949), Mr. Melquist (until 1950), Mr. Merrill (until 1970), and our present one, Mr. Loehden.

In the early days delivery of mail was done by horse and buggy in the country. The mail was delivered two times per day.

In the town people had to come to the Post Office General Delivery Window to get their mail each day.

Then in 1916 carriers were hired to deliver the town mail three times per day! These carriers walked from house to house to do this delivery.

Now we have only one delivery per day.

Letters were very inexpensive to send. A letter's stamp cost 2¢, while a post card cost only 1¢.

All mail was sorted, delivered, cancelled and taken care of by hand.

It was delivered to other cities by wagons, trucks and trains.

Airmail didn't start until the late 1930's.

Our Post Office has a very good rating. We also have our own building, rather than a rented one, which is rare for a town our size.



## WEIL'S DEPARTMENT STORE

Mr. Jake Weil

We visited Mr. Jake Weil, who told us about his department store.

Mr. Weil came to Hillsboro in 1913 from Spokane, Washington. His father and three brothers owned a store there and sold it when they moved to Pasco, Washington. The four brothers started seven stores in Pasco, and then in 1913 they moved to Hillsboro and started their store here. During the war they closed all their Pasco stores because two of the brothers went into the Army, and they kept only the Hillsboro store.

The first Weil's store was located on Third and Main where the Raintree is today.

Then in 1918 they bought a large old hotel called the Tualatin Hotel on Main Street where Weil's Arcade is today.

They tore down the hotel and built a big department store, the first one in Hillsboro.

They had a grand opening in 1918 with a style show and many attractions.

In 1935 they added a large room on the back and made their store bigger.

In 1967 they tore down their store and made the Weil Arcade. This is built right over the basement of the old store. The basement is still used for storage today!

Mr. Weil told us that stores were very different in the days of early service. Everything, even noodles, was sold by the piece, nothing was in packages, only bought in bulk. Now we get everything neatly put in plastic bags or boxes.

The salespeople were there to serve and wait on customers. They showed people things to buy and gave them lots of service. Stores were closed on Sundays and most nights. Saturday night they were open so the farming people could come to town and shop.

## NEWSPAPER

Mr. McKinney

We interviewed Mr. McKinney about our Hillsboro newspaper, The Argus.

He told us that his mother was very important, where the newspaper was concerned.

It has been a family business through three generations of McKinneys.

Mrs. Emma McKinney

When Mrs. McKinney was 17 years old her parents wanted her to go to Pacific University. She didn't really want to go. She knew she would get

homesick, as she couldn't come home every night. The roads to Forest Grove were so bad that students only came home on the weekends.

One day a doctor, who also owned the local newspaper, was making a visit to her mother, who was sick. She asked him if she could have a job so she could learn how the newspaper worked. Dr. Linklater gave her the job. She worked the first six months for free. Her first paycheck was for \$2.50 a week.

While working for the newspaper she met and married her husband in 1896.

She didn't go to college, but she learned a lot from the newspaper. She would always correct the spelling and grammar mistakes. She was in a partnership in the newspaper until 1923. Then she became the owner by herself. In 1924 she took charge of small articles, features, clubs, etc. She was named First Woman Citizen of Hillsboro in 1949.

In 1904 Mrs. McKinney, Dr. Linklater and her husband took The Independent over and became the partner-owners of the newspaper which was later to be called The Argus. After her husband died she continued on with the paper herself.

Mrs. "Mack" became a partner in the newspaper with Mr. Long. In 1927 Mr. Long sold his part of the partnership to Mr. Gile. She didn't like him quite as well as Mr. Long, so she bought Mr. Gile's share and had Mr. Long come back. They stayed in partnership until 1927. Mrs. McKinney finally bought out all her partners and the family owned the paper by themselves.

She became a partner in The Argus in 1904. She stayed with The Argus until she was 91. She died in 1965. Mrs. McKinney has won many awards for her fine newspaper work.

### Mr. McKinney

Mr. McKinney is Mrs. McKinney's son. In 1900 when Mr. McKinney was almost two years old his father died. One summer when all the older boys went into the service, he stayed to work on The Argus. When he went into the service, he served in Paris for 18 months. He was on a government printing plant. He returned in July 1919. After returning he worked on the crew which paved the first paved highway between here and Portland. That fall he went

to Oregon State College and finished his schooling in 1923. He would work on The Argus during the summer. He was his mother's business partner until she died. Mr. McKinney is about the oldest living native of Hillsboro now.

He says he has worked or been around newspapers since the first week he was born. He is now retired, but still active with the paper.

### Newspaper Itself

Our newspaper is really 103 years old.

In 1873 a newspaper called the Independent was started by two men named R. H. Mitchell and W. C. Clow. The Argus, at first called The Hillsboro Democrat, was first published in 1894. In 1932 these two papers were consolidated to become The Argus we know today.

The Argus Building used to be right across the street from the main entrance of the Court House until 1917, when Mr. Long and Mr. McKinney's mother (who were partners), moved it to 250 E. Main, where Duane's Shoe Store is now. In 1950 it moved to its present location.

At first they had to write out every newspaper by hand. This was a slow job for only three employees to do. Then they got a machine that printed newspapers one by one. After they printed two sheets they would turn them over and print the other side. The workers thought it was really great.

At first the paper was only six pages long, then it went up to eight pages and has been growing ever since.

In about 1920 there were 2,000 people taking the paper all over Beaverton and Hillsboro. Now there are 12,500.

The Argus used to be printed only once a week. In 1953 they doubled production to two times a week for better community service.

When the newspaper first came out it cost 5¢ per copy and \$1.50 per year.

The Argus was first delivered by second class mail, then they started hand delivery by children. It is also sent away to several other states.

Some interesting things have happened to people while working at the Argus. One Thursday Mr. McKinney went over to the Police Station to get a

story about a woman who shot herself. He thought the policeman said that the husband saw her take the gun, and that's the way it appeared in the paper. The next morning he and the assistant postmaster were sitting in Mr. McKinney's office. A man came stomping down the street. He came in and grabbed the assistant postmaster and said, "Are you the editor?" He said, "No." Then the guy made a jump for Mr. McKinney. Mr. McKinney jumped back and called into the back room for help. It took two other men to keep the man under control. Mr. McKinney talked to the doctor that night. The doctor said Mr. McKinney was very lucky because if that man had had a gun, they probably would have been shot!

The Argus has won more national awards than any other community newspaper on the West Coast.



## TRANSPORTATION

Mr. Bowman

### Airport

The airport was started in 1935. After awhile an extension was made. Dr. Elmer Smith paid the money for the extension of the airport. Then the airport was turned over to a private industry. In 1965 the airport was turned over to the Port of Portland. The Port of Portland bought the airport for \$1.00 with the stipulation that it would put one million dollars in on airport repairing.

## Train

In 1909 Hillsboro had electric cars. Electric trains used a 600 volt power line. A pole goes up with a wheel on it and the wheel rolls on the power line and makes the train go. They had these overhead trolleys for a number of years.

The Southern Pacific Railroad came in 1912. It went down Fifth Street and up Main to the north end of Adams Avenue, then down to the main tracks by the Carnation plant. The train quit running through Hillsboro in 1924. Multnomah had a service station that handled Hillsboro. The Southern Pacific Railroad still goes through Hillsboro, Forest Grove, and McMinnville. In 1900 Hillsboro had a steam locomotive. Back then, if you wanted to go to Portland you went by train because they didn't have many cars until 1910 or 1912. The Southern Pacific Railway was started to Tillamook in 1905. The railway didn't get to the coast until 1910 or 1912. When you wanted to go to Portland by train you went in the morning and came back the next day.

The train depot was also used as a stage coach depot in the early days.

The tracks for the train were laid right down the middle of Hillsboro's Main Street. The depot was in the building next to the Town Theater, where The Children's Shop is today. People could buy a small lunch and their tickets there. The people had to be careful when crossing Main Street and watch for trains coming in to the depot.

### Roads

The main road to Portland from the Tualatin Valley since the first settlement of this valley was Cornell. There was one wagon road from here to Portland. It started in the middle of town, then it went east on Baseline to Ninth Street, then south on Ninth Street where it jumped over to Tenth Street. It went to the stop light on Thirteenth, then went across some train tracks. It then crossed Rock Creek and came back to Witch Hazel School. It went east about a mile. It crossed Rock Creek again and went past Reedville, then across the tracks again. It went by Reedville on the south side of the track to Reedville Station, then south one mile and east on the next road until it came to Farmington Road, and

then to Beaverton, which was only 500 people in population. From Beaverton there were about the same roads as we have now.

There used to be a stage coach from Hillsboro to Portland. It was a very windy, long road to Portland and took almost the whole day to drive from Hillsboro to Portland.

Tualatin Valley Highway was built in the late twenties and was considered quite a time saver by everyone. It was built by connecting existing stretches of roads, but in a straight line.

The roads to the beach were also very bad. The Wilson River Highway was a main one through the Tillamook Burn, and there was an old winding road to Seaside.

In 1940 the Sunset Highway was dedicated and made going to the beach much nicer. This highway was named after a famous division of soldiers in the National Guard which was one of the first to be sent to war. Many of these soldiers were killed and they were all from Oregon.

By Pamela Faller and Lisa King

## THE RECREATION OF HILLSBORO

### Mr. Phelps

We talked with Mr. Phelps, an old time resident of Hillsboro, about what things people did for fun in early Hillsboro.

Mr. Phelps is the theater owner in Hillsboro, so of course he listed his theaters, then he told us about other recreations such as: skating rinks, dances, concerts, baseball games, and the library.

People had to make their own fun and community gatherings were very popular.

## THEATERS

In 1908 there were no motion pictures in Hillsboro because they were just invented and had not come out yet. Finally, when the movies came out they were silent. When you went to the movies then you would have had to pay 10 cents to watch a 15 to 20 minute film. There usually were two stories on 10 minutes of film. The stories were usually about villains, chases, tragedy and comedy, but they were very simple. Finally in 1930 sound pictures were invented using a phonograph. At least it was a start, but the sound was very bad because they had not invented the amplifying tube. The phonograph was set on stage and a belt-like cord ran back to the operating

room where a man cranked. Then it went to the film projector and back to the phonograph. This was supposed to keep the film and sound together, but it did not work at first. After a few years and practice the man could crank it right and keep the sound with the picture.

The first theater that Mr. Phelps built and ran was the Arcade Theater on Main Street. It was built in 1908 and seated 108 people. The second theater he built was the Liberty Theater. It stood where the Town Theater is now and it seated 275 people. The third theater he built was the Grand Theater. It seated 500 people. The fourth theater was the Venetion Theater built in 1925, which seated 750 people. The last theater built was the Hill Theater. In 1958 the Venetion Theater burned down, so he rebuilt the theater and called it the Town Theater.

### SKATING RINK

The first skating rink in Hillsboro was built before 1908 and there were two stories. The bottom floor was a feed store and the floor above was a skating rink. It was very small on First Street. The Shute Park Pavillion, which was eventually used for the second skating rink, was finished for the annual celebration of the Fourth of July. It had a fine maple floor. For a long time it was used for Saturday night dances and other recreational functions such as basketball, etc. The dances drew such huge crowds that the building was quickly paid for. Then for a long



period of time it sat empty with nothing happening, until finally someone leased it for a skating rink. This building was torn down in 1974 to be replaced by the new library.

### DANCES

There were many public Saturday dances and also private dances scattered around Hillsboro. In the summers there were dances out on the Court House lawn. The only kind of music for the dances then was the concert band. Every town had its own

special concert band. The first time Hillsboro ever had a good band is when Mr. Gutman came to teach band in our high school. Before that people had few teachers and had to play on a volunteer basis.

### BASEBALL AND SWIMMING

The first swimming pool or "tank" Hillsboro had was built before the Second World War, but it was very unsanitary.

Just before the swimming tank was built the lot was used as a baseball field with grand stands for spectators, as

Hillsboro loved its baseball games. Every small town had its town team and the whole town turned out to cheer for their own baseball team.

### LIBRARY

In 1914 the first library was built and named the Carnegie Library. It was built because there was a man named Mr. Carnegie who was very, very rich. He was one of the first men to make and work with steel. He felt that every town should have a library. He set up a foundation when he died so that every town which met

certain qualifications could have a library. All the city would have to do is stock it with books and maintain it. Hillsboro qualified for this library and it was built. It was located by the Court House.

By Zennette Lagler

## COLLECTED FACTS ABOUT PLACES IN HILLSBORO

We found out some facts about early Hillsboro's businesses and points of interest. Many of these places are gone today and few people remember them. In this following chapter we will try to tell you about them.

### Grey Wagon Freight Line

This was a delivery service like a truck delivery is today, but it was all horse and wagons. These wagons were painted grey and the men delivered freight all over the countryside. They delivered goods in both the town and countryside, and took regular trips to Portland. The trip to Portland took a whole day.

### Steamboats

Hillsboro had steamboats! The Tualatin River was much larger because its water wasn't used so heavily by farmers as it is today.

Farmers used to send their produce to Hillsboro by a steamboat. Then it

met the railway and was carried to the cities such as Portland.

### Hillsboro's Hotel

Hillsboro had the Tualatin Hotel. It was very splendid and popular when it was new. It stood on Main Street where Weil's Arcade is now. People came from all over to stay at this hotel, even from Portland. Another hotel stood on Third and Main, where the Washington Federal Loan Company is now.

### Wiley's Tavern

Wiley's Tavern was located where the U.S. Bank's parking lot is today. It had swinging doors and was a favorite stopping place for the men of Hillsboro. Mr. Wiley had a pet duck which followed him all over town. Everyone knew him and he grew to be a favorite in the town.

### Shute Park

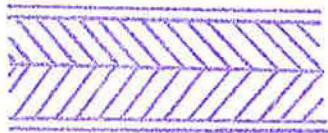
Shute Park was donated to the city by Mr. Shute. Until just recently it was the center of most of our outside recreation. The Fourth of July celebration and the County Fair were both held there.

A big pavillion was built for dances and meetings. It later became our skating rink.

The ball park was, and still is, across the street from the park. Baseball was very popular and Hillsboro had a fine team for many years.

### Early Streets

In 1911 the city of Hillsboro decided to pave their dirt streets. They used 2 x 4 wooden boards to make wooden streets. They laid these planks on an

angle like this  to make the streets stronger. This helped keep the mud down in the winter, but water still squished up through the boards to spray people.

### Stores

There were several small grocery stores in Hillsboro. You could buy a sack of flour for 75¢. Grain was about \$1.35 a bushel. People used to have to dip beans and even peanut butter out of barrels. Sometimes they bought the whole barrel.

There was a meat market where Economy Drug Store is now.

All the stores sold special things-- either meat or groceries.

There was a grocery store at each end of Main Street between Second and Third. Then there were three more small stores on Second Street.

All of these stores delivered groceries to their customers by horse and buggy. People could charge their groceries and pay for them by the month.

### Hillsboro's Industries

Three big industries of Hillsboro were the sawmill, the cannery and the Carnation plant.

The mill started in 1895. It was located on Third Street and Cedar. The sawmill quit business around 1910-12. Until that time many people were employed there.

The first cannery was at Tenth and Washington. It was at what now is Albertson's. Later the cannery, which is now the Bird's Eye plant, was started on Baseline Street.

The Carnation plant came in 1905. The Forest Grove Carnation plant eventually sold out, but ours is still there.



One other big industry around Hillsboro was the hop farms. All the people in the town helped pick the hops like we pick strawberries today.

### Livery Stables

There were three livery stables in Hillsboro. The biggest one was on Main Street and another good-sized one was on Third across from the Hill Theater. A livery stable is where people kept their horses or had them shod. They also could rent horses and buggies when they needed to travel a great distance.

### The Ice Houses

There were two ice houses. One was at Lincoln by Adams. It was by the railroad tracks and across the street from the Court House. The other ice house was between Second and Third on Baseline. They kept their ice cold by storing it in sawdust. People would come to buy ice to keep their food cold at home or they would have it delivered.

### The Electric Company

The first electric company was on Second and north of Lincoln. It was behind the Baptist Church and is now a

parking lot. It was started in 1910 by a man who would start it up at 5:00 A.M. and keep the electricity going until late at night by running a steam engine. He would blow a whistle so everyone knew the electricity was on. The electricity was used for lights only. Then slowly it was used for other things.