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NOTES ON HISTORY OF DENT AREA

Homesteaded by Charles & Katherine Dent in 1895.

Built a 17 room travelers rest- shortly thereafter as the area settled.

Most stuff came in via Cavendish

Dr. J.M. Fairly a frequent visitor. 2 day trip. Now 15 minutes.

DENT built a blacksmith shop

DENT built a TAVERN

Mrs DENT ran the Postoffice. -- 1905

Most important mail- Sears Roebuck catalogue.

1910- North Fork Road District formed to get road up river.

1934 CCC Camp improved road from Ahsahka to Elk Cr.

Mouth of Elk Creek divide line with Clearwater H. Way Dist.

1934-1940 political effort made to get road up to Canyon R.S. USFS with no luck.

Area settled in 1900's:

Herb Ripley

Wm B. Kinney- Helen Mc Carthy Kinnie born there.

S.P. ~~James~~ Ross. ~~XXXXXX~~County Auditor, later.

Fitsimmons

Bardwell's

etc. etc.

Ovie's on E. Side of River.

Was quite a community. Had own school etc.

Chas DENT acted as: Homesteader, Postmaster, Minister, Blacksmith, Tavern operator, Hotel manager

Place burned to ground in 1924.

MY FIRST TRIP TO AREA WAS IN 1914. Stayed at Hotel.

Les Vanairsdale, former USFS Supr. of USFS born there

in ~~1905xxxxx~~ 1895. First to be born there. (Les Vanarisdale

The DENTS had three children : Son Harry was Sherriff at Lewiston, Idaho during the 30's/

Other members of family- Cora and Mamie (2 girls)

Total family - 5 (Inc. Chas. and Katherine.)

1930's North Fork Highway disolved- became part of County.

1905- the North Fork trail built by Cl. County to give

route of travel- Orofino-Slocum-Bartlet point. M. of Reeds Cr.-Big Island and up river jointly with the CTPA. A 50-50 coop. deal with Ass'n. Parts of old trail can still be seen. This is when the upper N. Fork was opened to entry and the homesteaders came.

Webb brothers built a log drive trail up river from Elk Cr. to L. N. Fork in the 30's.

Access to the river country has always been very difficult.

One wonders what Homsteader Chas Dent would think if some one should have told him a bridge would be built across the river to provide access in 1895