

JOSEPHINE COUNTY CULTURAL AND HISTORICAL RESOURCE SURVEY

IDENTIFICATION:

T 38S R 7W S 16 NE NW $\frac{1}{4}$ Present Owner: Trimble, Jean
 Account Number: 38-7-16, TL 300 Address: 608 Milverton Road
 Address: 5110 Lakeshore Drive Los Altos, California
Dryden, Oregon Architect: _____
 Historic Name: Dryden Store and Post Off. Builder: Martin, William
 Common Name: _____ Original Owner: Martin, William
 Category: District _____ Ensemble _____ Building(s) Structure _____
 Site _____ Object _____
 Ranking: Secondary Quadrangle: Selma

Use: Present Residence Original Store and Post Office

THEME:

<input type="checkbox"/> Archaeology	<input type="checkbox"/> Industry	<input type="checkbox"/> Mining
<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Social/Education
<input type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Politics/Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> Religion	<input type="checkbox"/> Other
<input type="checkbox"/> Exploration/Settlement		

DESCRIPTION:

Type: Store/Post Office Date Constructed 1920 Estimated Factual _____
 Style: Vernacular
 Plan: Rectangular
 Roof: Gable; Composition shingle; Hipped roof with porch overhang
 Walls: Frame; Channel siding
 Windows: Replacement windows
 Doors: Wood; Glass light
 Decorative Elements: Plain trim
 Foundation: None
 Alterations/Additions: Composition siding on west elevation
 Condition: Excellent _____ Good _____ Fair _____ Deteriorated
 Other Resources: Sign: Dryden

Recorded By: Kay Atwood Date: April 5, 1984
 Negative # IX-16 Slide # Roll: K4

SITE:

Original Site x Moved Date

The former Dryden Post Office and Store is located at the northeast corner of the intersection of Dryden Road and Lakeshore Drive. The building faces in a southerly direction. The community of Dryden no longer exists and this building is the sole representative of that location. The intersection is located approximately five miles east of Selma, Oregon and borders the southern boundary of the Deer Creek Valley.

SIGNIFICANCE: (Historical and/or Architectural importance, Dates, Events, Persons, Context)

According to Lewis McArthur's Oregon Geographic Names, Dryden was named for the poet John Dryden by a local resident J.P. Mills who was noted by his neighbors for being an avid reader. The post office was first established here on February 8, 1892, with Mary E. Tolin as the first postmaster. It closed on May 31, 1956. Among other 19th century postmasters were the William Mastins on whose land the post office was established. William Mastin and his wife, Harriet Mastin, came west because of the climate and settled at the site of Dryden on the recommendation of relatives, the John Wisemans, who were already there. On April 18, 1883, William H. Mastin purchased land which had been the Donation Land Claim of Joseph Dickerson. Joseph Dickerson secured his claim #38 on January 20, 1855, and later sold to Andrew and Phoebe Anderson. The Andersons sold the land to William Mastin for \$800. William Mastin was chosen postmaster on November 20, 1896, but died soon after. Harriet Mastin succeeded him two years later in that position. The original home in which they operated the post office, stood about one hundred yards north of the present structure, and the Dryden School was located where the present building stands. A son of William H. and Harriet Mastin, also named William, constructed the building which housed the second post office and in which he operated a general store. After the post office closed in 1956, the building was used primarily as a residence and changed hands several times. Harriet Mastin died in February, 1929, and left many descendants who continued living in the area.

The Dryden Store and Post Office is in deteriorated condition, but is significant as the sole remaining vestige of this community and bears the sign which identifies the town.

SOURCES CONSULTED:

Daily Courier, (Grants Pass), April 2, 1960.

Hagerman, Elsie Walton; Telephone conversation, April 27, 1984. Mrs Hagerman lived as a child in the Deer Creek area and recalls the post office and the Mastins.

Josephine County Deed Records, Volume 5, page 119.

McArthur, Lewis A.; (1974), Oregon Geographic Names, Portland, Oregon; Oregon Historical Society.

U.S. Federal Census, Josephine County, 1900, 1910.

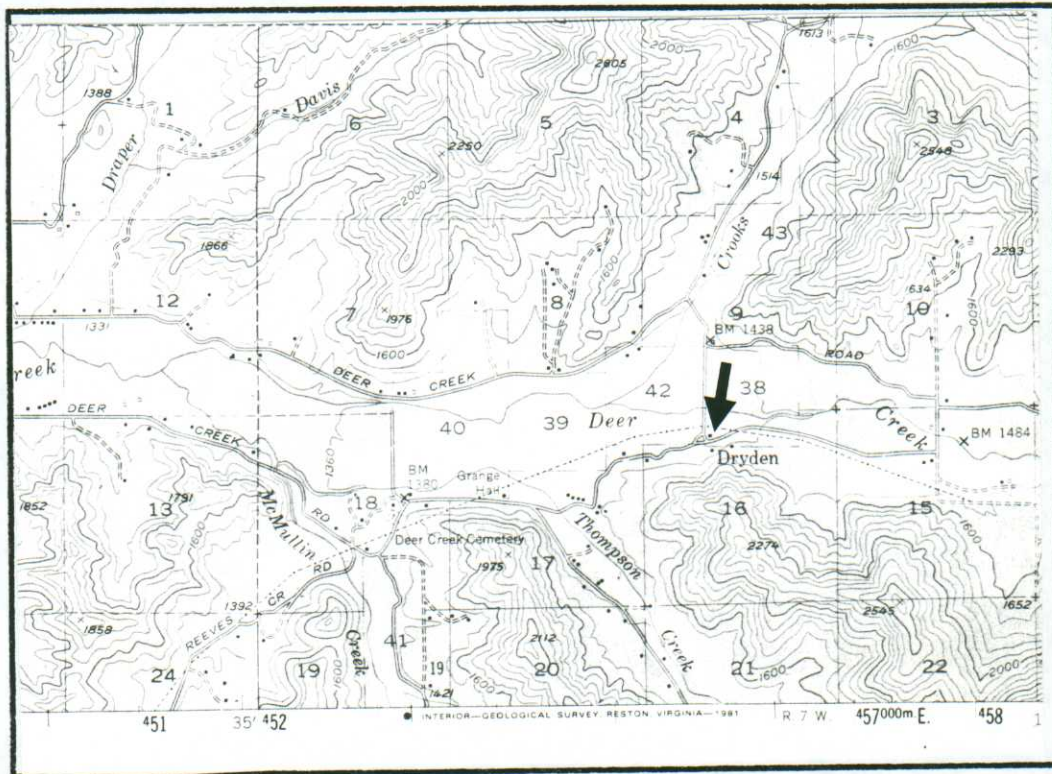
JOSEPHINE COUNTY HISTORICAL RESOURCES

NAME: Dryden Store and Post Office



VIEW: South-west Elevation

DATE OF PHOTO: April, 1984



Josephine County Planning Department