

JOSEPHINE COUNTY CULTURAL AND HISTORICAL RESOURCE SURVEY

IDENTIFICATION:

T 37S R 5W S 18 SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ Present Owner: Bates, Monty
 Account Number: 37-5-18, TL 185 Address: P.O. Box 100
 Address: 6400 William Highway Murphy, Oregon
Murphy, Oregon Architect: _____
 Historic Name: Murphy General Store Builder: Gilmore, Elmer
 Common Name: Murphy Store Original Owner: Gilmore, Elmer
 Category: District _____ Ensemble _____ Building(s) Structure _____
 Site _____ Object _____
 Ranking: Secondary Quadrangle: Grants Pass
 Use: Present Store; Post Office Original Store

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 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 1939 Estimated _____ Factual
 Style: Vernacular
 Plan: Rectangular; One and a half stories; Projecting porch; Drive through
 Roof: Gable; Corrugated metal; Dormers
 Walls: Frame; Horizontal channel siding; Porch support columns
 Windows: Multi-light; Large
 Doors: Wood; Glass light
 Decorative Elements: Main window and door trim
 Foundation: Concrete
 Alterations/Additions: New addition; Gable roof; Channel siding
 Condition: Excellent _____ Good Fair _____ Deteriorated _____
 Other Resources: _____

Recorded By: Kay Atwood Date: March 20, 1984
 Negative # VIII-17 Slide # Roll: J3

SITE:

Original Site x Moved _____ Date _____

The Murphy General Store is located at the intersection of New Hope Road and the Williams Highway and stands on the northwest corner of the junction. The Murphy Church is directly west of the store, and a school stands nearby. The Murphy Store is gradually being encroached upon by modern buildings, but remains the sole structure in the immediate area associated with the old site of Murphy.

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

The Murphy General Store was constructed in 1939 by Elmer Gilmore, son of James Gilmore, and his wife Ruth. James Gilmore and his wife had first moved to the Applegate in 1877. In the 1880's the family left the area for Missouri. Mrs. Gilmore died on the trip home. In Missouri, James Gilmore married his widowed sister-in-law and the two began their own family. Elmer Gilmore was one of their two sons. James Gilmore returned to the Applegate area in 1901 and opened a general store at his home across the road from the present store and post office. The post office was located soon after, at this store. In 1910, when James Gilmore retired, his son Elmer built a new store and post office across the street at the present location. The former Murphy Grange served as a second store and post office structure on the site until it burned late in the 1930's. The present building was built in 1939 by Mr. Gilmore and continued to serve as store and post office. Elmer Gilmore worked delivering the rural route until 1955.

The building has long been the community center of Murphy and continues to function in a central position.

SOURCES CONSULTED:

Gilmore, William; Interview March 23, 1984. Mr. Gilmore is a nephew of Elmer Gilmore.

Johnson, Olga; 1979, They Settled In Applegate Country Grants Pass, Oregon.

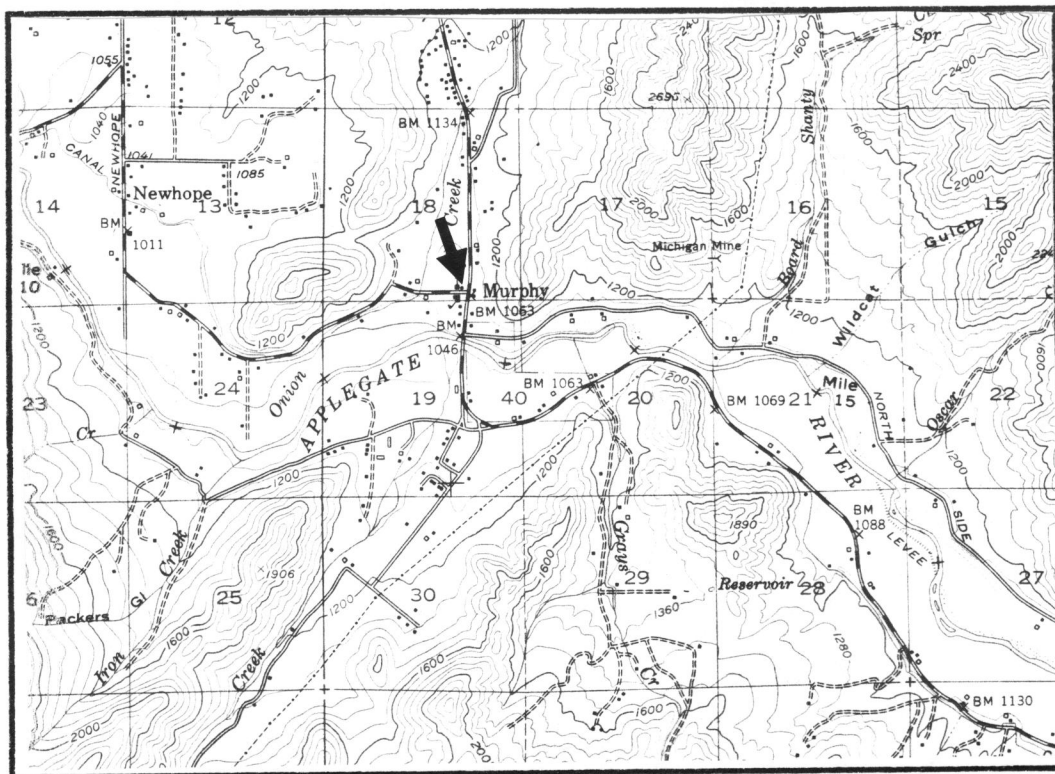
JOSEPHINE COUNTY HISTORICAL RESOURCES

NAME: Murphy General Store



VIEW: South and East Elevations

DATE OF PHOTO: March 1984



Josephine County Planning Department