



THEN

The town of Woodside was founded around 1900, when the Northern Pacific Railroad built tracks near the Corvallis river crossing. Woodside used to be the biggest shipping station in the Bitterroot, due to the flourishing fruit industry. To support the growing town of Woodside, there were several warehouses, a livery barn, a blacksmith shop, a creamery, a sugar-beet conveyor, and two stores; one of which was called the Woodside Store, owned by Mr. Pierce (picture on left). It was the biggest store in town and housed the only available gas pump. The store also had commercial scales to weigh the wagons full of vegetables, grain and hay that were going to be loaded onto rail cars. When the railroad moved from the west side to the east side in 1928, it caused the downfall of Woodside as a town.

NOW

The building that housed the new Woodside Store was built in 1935. It served as a gas station and a small general store. Larry and Mary Hale owned the store in the early 2000's, which they bought from a previous owner in 1985. The building was then torn down due to a governmentally funded road expansion that occurred in 2008, from Hamilton to Woodside. Approximately \$15 million federal dollars and \$2 million state dollars were used for the 4-lane expansion. Originally Mr. and Mrs. Hale wished to relocate and rebuild the Woodside store, but no current plans have been made. For now, the lot which once held the Woodside store will remain as an empty parking lot (picture on right), but for many, the memory of the store lives on.

By: Katie McDonald

