

Fork of Salmon School District

The first known school in this area was at Schoolhouse Flat about five miles up the South Fork of the Salmon River from the town of Forks of Salmon. It had been in use long before 1880.

The second school in this district was located between the Forks of Salmon and Crapo Creek. About 1890, this building “fell to pieces” and a new one was erected on the outskirts of the bustling mining town of Forks of Salmon. Yet another school was built in 1935 on the same site (across the street from the present school). In 1961 the fourth school of the district was built.

Mr. August McPhee taught in this school in 1899. Classes met for a 6.5 month term that year with 16 pupils in attendance.

This district is still in operation and is one of the oldest continually operating school districts in the county.

Reference in board of Supervisors minutes:

Established: There is no clear record of when this district was established. However, it seems likely that November 3, 1879 is the correct date. (See Board of Supervisors minutes, 3-515)

April 4, 1892 – Boundary change (5-126)

July 21, 1947 – Salmon River District merged with Forks of Salmon (20-291)

July 26, 1949 – Sawyers Bar was annexed to Forks of Salmon (21-87)

March 22, 1960 – Bonds sold (26-296)



Date unknown. Siskiyou County Office of Education School History Collection.



ca. 1935. Photo by Bob Dennis, from the collection of Bob Dais



ca. 1940. Siskiyou County Office of Education School History Collection.



Date unknown. Siskiyou County Office of Education School History Collection.



Forks of Salmon class, date unknown. Siskiyou County Office of Education School History Collection.



Students with principal, date unknown. Loaned by the Siskiyou County Public Library.



The new school, date unknown. Siskiyou County Office of Education School History Collection.