

## **Fort Jones School District**

Apparently the Fort Jones District was originally named Scott Valley School District. No exact date can be found of its establishment. It is first dated October 5, 1885. On April 3, 1893, the name of Scott Valley District was changed to Fort Jones District.

Fort Jones started life as a tavern on the stage route between Yreka and Callahan. It was known as Wheelock, named after its founder. Fort (Roger) Jones, a few miles out of town, was in operation between 1852 and 1857 as protection against unfriendly Indians. It was named after Roger Jones, Adjutant General, by the Commanding Officer of the Fort, Major Edward H. Fitzgerald of the 1<sup>st</sup> US Dragoons.

The first school building was erected in 1862 on the north side of the fire hall. The second was built in 1884 and stood in the vicinity of the present Community Church. Mr. Fred S. Wayne and Miss Kate Grider were the teachers in 1899. There were 49 pupils that year. This building was condemned in 1915. The third structure, a combination high school and grammar school, was constructed near the present community center of bricks from the condemned building. It was in use from 1917 to 1921 when it burned. It was rebuilt after the fire but the high school students were moved to the present high school building in 1922.

In July 1933, this school also burned and the building that is now used as a Community Center was constructed. In 1957 this building became too crowded and the students were moved to the present elementary school.

### **Reference in board of Supervisors minutes:**

Established: April 3, 1893 – Scott Valley School Districts name was changed to Fort Jones School District (5-240)

February 4, 1913 – Boundaries were changed, description given (9-268)

September 4, 1923 – Part of Franklin School District added to Fort Jones (12-142)

October 1, 1923 – Territory gained from lapsing of Franklin, clarified (13-146)

December 3, 1940 – Petition to annex Mound School District (18-408)

January 6, 1941 – Mound School District annexed to Fort Jones (18-412)

June 19, 1942 – Moffet Creek was annexed to the Lincoln District which was unionized with Fort Jones (19-96)

June 7, 1955 – Sale of bonds (23-482)

September 13, 1960 – Mound area of Fort Jones School District – election to be annexed to Etna union 926-423)

December 16, 1969 – Portion of Fort Jones transferred to Etna (see County Board of Education minutes)



**Methodist Church and Combination  
Grade & High School, Fort Jones**

Fort Jones Grade and High School, ca. 1917. Siskiyou County Office of Education School History Collection.



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



The elementary school, ca. 1940. Photo by Mildred Grant, donated by Roderick and Larry Grant.



ca. 1965. Siskiyou County Office of Education School History Collection