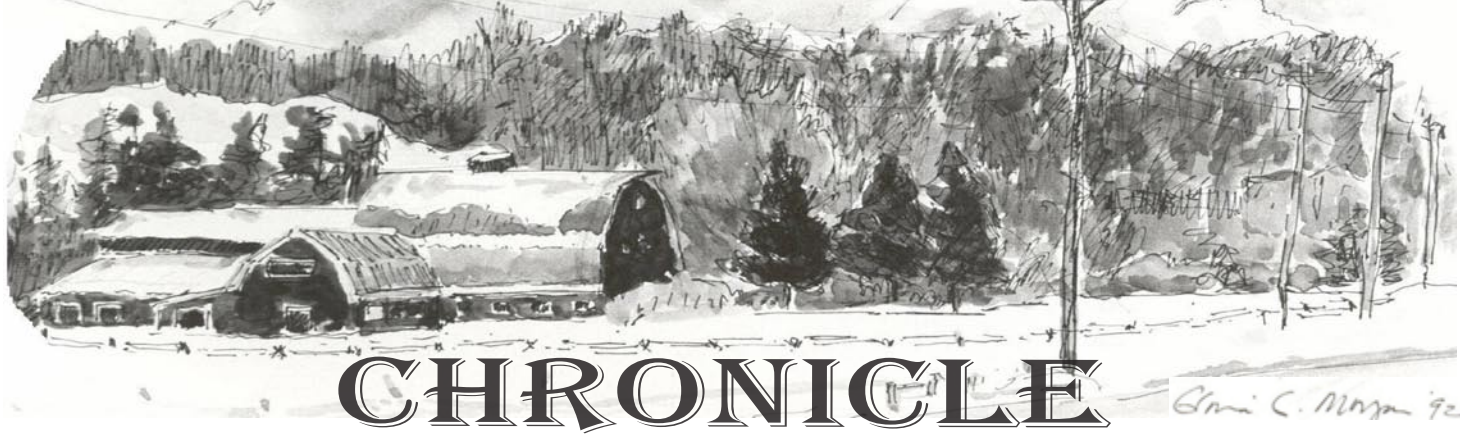


JACKSON HOLE

50th Anniversary
1958-2008

HISTORICAL SOCIETY & MUSEUM



CHRONICLE

VOLUME XXVIII NO. 3

JACKSON'S HOLE, WYOMING

FALL 2008

Ninety-four years ago, the Jackson State Bank opened for business on July 22, 1914. As of July 1 of this year, the Wells Fargo Bank purchased all of the banks of the United Bancorporation of Wyoming, which includes Jackson State Bank and Trust. They will be taking over operations in October. It is hard to imagine the town of Jackson without this familiar establishment taking care of the community's banking needs and being involved in community affairs; however, Dave Landis, Senior Vice President/Marketing, offers assurances that the philanthropic and service traditions of Jackson's first bank will continue.

The bank started out in a small brick building called the Kroner Building on the west side of the town square where the Cowboy Bar is now, with capital of \$10,000 and no reserves. Shares in the new bank sold for \$100 each, and many local ranchers became the founding shareholders. The building rent was \$15.00 per month which was considered pretty high in those days. The original board of directors included T. Lloyd, P. C. Hansen, Frank S. Wood, G. L. Brady, J. H. Wilson, O. L. Starrett,

owned by Henry Crabtree located on the south side of the town square near what is now Crabtree Corner. This building



Second location of the bank, c. 1925. Left to right: Jim Francis, Robert Miller, R.P. Stevens, and Charlie Fox. 1958.2227.001

was built as a grocery store in 1909 by Pat Reed who operated the Reed Hotel with his wife "Ma" Reed. Before the bank

Crabtree Corner was being redeveloped in 1992, he purchased the Little Jewel hoping to work with a property owner in the downtown area who would be interested in restoring it and using it for retail. He remembered seeing a photograph in Jackson Drug of the building when it was the Jackson State Bank, and had the romantic idea of restoring a little part of Jackson Hole history and the old Town Square. Several thousand dollars later, having moved it from one vacant lot to another for many years, he was unsuccessful in finding anyone interested. The structure met its demise when the lot where it rested was being developed for the Flat Creek Business Center on High School Road in 2002, and the Little Jewel was demolished.

The bank moved to a log structure on Center Street in 1936 where the current downtown branch is located. This log structure was replaced by the present building, with numerous improvements and enlargements through the years, including a 6,000 square foot addition to the north side of the downtown bank which began in 1971 and cost \$200,000.

A number of notable milestones

A Hometown Institution: The Jackson State Bank

occupied it, the Teton National Forest had its first headquarters there in 1917. After the bank vacated the small building, it housed a variety of retail businesses

and eventually the Little Jewel jewelry shop.

An interesting side note is what eventually happened to the Little Jewel building. Gibbs Smith, owner of Smith-Peregrine Publishing Co. in Layton, Utah, is an avid Jackson Hole

history buff. His love of the history of the valley began when he started visiting the area with his grandmother in the 1940s, and continues today. When

for the Jackson State Bank are worth mentioning. During the Great Depression, the Jackson State Bank



Harry Wagner, first Cashier, and dog Muggins in front of the first Jackson State Bank 1992.4201.001



The Little Jewel being moved from Crabtree Corner to High School Road. In this 1993 photograph, it is parked at the Fairgrounds. 2003.0050.021

Robert E. Miller who was President, Hyrum Deloney who was Vice President, and Harry Wagner who was Cashier.

In 1926, the bank moved to a building

STAFF AND BOARD OF THE
JACKSON HOLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY
AND MUSEUM

Staff

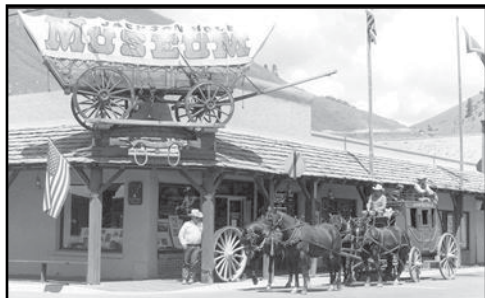
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Mission Statement

The Jackson Hole Historical Society and Museum collects, interprets, and preserves our unique heritage in an engaging and enriching manner.



The Jackson Hole Historical Society and Museum Chronicle is published quarterly for members and friends of the Jackson Hole Historical Society and Museum. Suggestions and comments are always welcome.

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Organizational News

We want to bring you up to date on our new museum project. We are delighted to report excellent progress. The board and staff have been working with our architects, Charles Rose and Associates, and our exhibition designers, André and Associates, and we are creating a master plan for an outstanding, year-round museum for Jackson Hole.

At the same time, the town has been working to develop a Comprehensive Plan that aims to keep Jackson Hole great. After extensive discussions with the Planning Commission, we realize that until that plan is complete, they cannot tell us how our master plan and the Town's Comprehensive Plan work together—and it is uncertain when the Comprehensive Plan will be complete.

In the meantime, everyone wants a museum sometime sooner than years in the future.

The result is that we have decided to build Phase One of the *Museum of Jackson Hole* beginning as soon as possible. Planning of the initial remodel and exhibitions is well underway, and in the next few months, you'll see work on our existing 225 North Cache building that will result in a new four-season exhibition space with facilities for educating our school kids and enlightening our community about the history of Jackson Hole—and our community begins with you!

We welcome your comments and ideas.

Lokey Lytjen, Executive Director

Jim Luebbers, Board President

**The Jackson Hole Historical Society and Museum
welcomes the following new members
(June, July, and August):**

- Frank and Cecilia Bellinghiere
 - Christine Clapp
 - Jack and Sandy Dennis
 - Missy Falcey
 - Eric and Betsy Frey
 - Bill and Mary Jane Friend
 - Edward Henze
 - Norton and Kim Holschuh
 - Frannie Huff
 - Rebekah Johnson
 - Gary Manuel
 - Marc and Marian Milgram
 - Marilyn Paul
 - Rick and Mary Suman
 - Maurice and Shirley Zardus
- Thank you for your support!*

Upcoming Events

Thursday, October 16 ~ Annual Meeting and Dinner

6:30 p.m. at the Senior Center. Bring a dish to share and table service for yourself, and learn about the year's accomplishments.

Thursday, November 20 ~ Holiday Dinner and Program

A fun way to begin the holiday season! 6:30 p.m. at the Senior Center. Please call Virginia Blair at 733-3372 to sign up for what to bring, i.e. turkeys, mashed potatoes, stuffing, etc.

Thursday, December 4 ~ Old Tyme Christmas Program

Stories of Christmases Past in Jackson Hole. Traditional holiday music, cookies, beverages, small admission, 6:30 p.m., location to be announced.

Generosity Continues Through Old Bill's Fun Run 12

The Jackson Hole Historical Society and Museum received \$56,125 as of September 22, 2008 through Old Bill's Fun Run 12. Thank you to our numerous supporters who donate through this wonderful event to benefit local non-profits! These donations will go a long way to helping us reach our goal of a year-round community history museum.



Diane Hughes helping with the Old Bill's Fun Run booth on the Town Square.

2008 Slim Lawrence Barbecue

The Slim Lawrence Barbecue was enjoyed by 350 attendees on a beautiful afternoon Sunday, August 17 at the historic Miller House site on the National Elk Refuge (NER). A team of NER volunteers kept the Miller House open two hours longer that day to accommodate guests of the barbecue and give tours of the building, and 277 guests took advantage of this opportunity. It was a wonderful way to highlight the partnership between the Jackson Hole Historical Society and Museum (JHHS) and the NER. The JHHS has played a key role in the exhibition of the Miller Ranch, helping with the development of

an interpretive plan and loaning period furniture to display in the home.

Guests enjoyed wonderful western music by Shelley, Kelly, and Friends, barbecue dinner catered by Bubba's, and program by keynote speaker Lori Iverson, Outdoor Recreation Planner for the NER. She gave an overview of the site's history and its significance to the NER and Jackson Hole valley. Refuge Manager Steve Kallin also spoke, addressing refuge management concerns for the future. Executive Director Lokey Lytjen spoke about the fifty year history of the Jackson Hole Museum and Slim Lawrence's role, and President of the

Board Jim Luebbers addressed the future of the organization and gave an update on the new *Museum of Jackson Hole*. The event wrapped up with drawings for door prizes consisting of beautiful photographs of the NER, a book about Cal Carrington, and gift baskets from the Jackson Hole Museum.

Thank you to all of the volunteers and sponsors who helped make this year's Slim Lawrence Barbecue so successful. It was a wonderful way to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of the Jackson Hole Museum and celebrate our unique history.





Left to right: St. John's Church and bell tower; the Hostel or "Rest House," dedicated in 1911, which later became the rectory; and the original four-room hospital. 1958.1054.001

Serving the Jackson Hole Community for 100 Years *St. John's Episcopal Church*

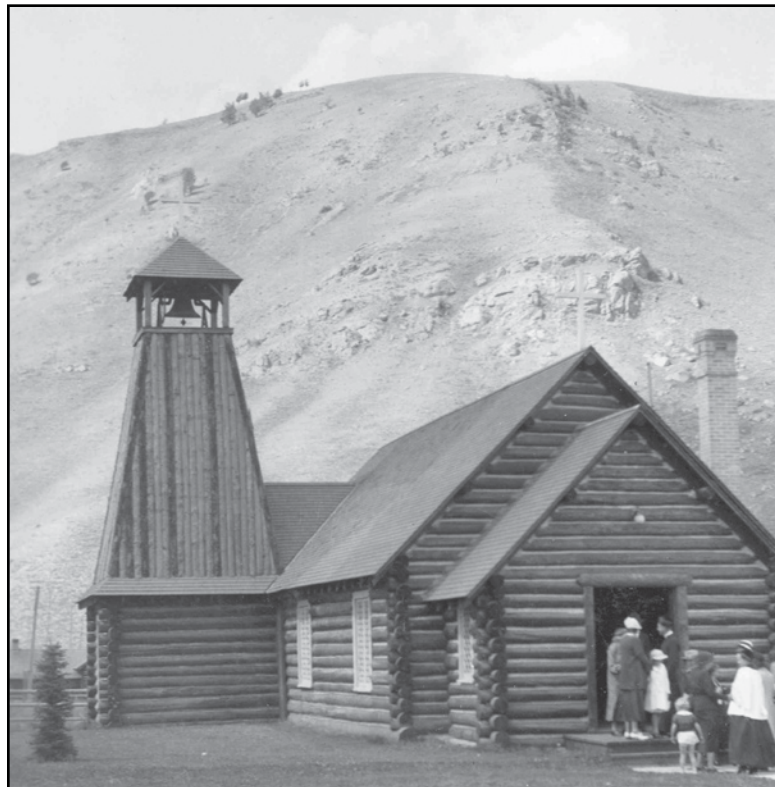
The St. John's Episcopal Church ministry has been serving the Jackson Hole community for one hundred years. It all began in 1908 when Bishop Nathaniel Thomas of the Episcopal Missionary District of Wyoming sent Mr. Joseph E. Williams, a divinity student from Virginia Theological Seminary, to hold services and report back as to the religious needs of the recently settled area of Jackson Hole.

Church services were held at The Clubhouse on the town square from 1908 until 1911. This building was the center of activity in early Jackson, and it housed a variety of commercial, government, and civic entities: the first drugstore, the mercantile, a post office, a courtroom for poachers, the first newspaper, a bakery, a barber shop, Episcopal and Baptist church services, and a dance hall. As a result of a huge community effort, a great deal of free labor, and mostly donated land, St. John's Church ministry soon had a home of its own.

A two-story log Hostel, the "Rest House" was built in 1911 to meet the community's need for social services. It was shelter for those passing through who were unable to afford the hotel. It not only was a multi-purpose church, but included a library (more than 1,000 volumes by 1916), vicar's quarters, and a room with a pool table and a basketball hoop in the basement. In times of need, it was also used for school classes. It was also a meeting place for a men's club and the Boy Scouts, and housed a thrift shop, a precursor to today's Browse N' Buy. Now known as St. John's House, it houses the church offices and provides meeting space for committees, study groups, and various community organizations.

In 1915, members of the Men's Club met in the pool hall of the Hostel and decided that a church and hospital needed to be built. Jackson's first and only doctor, Dr. Charles W. Huff,

needed a place to work. The hat passed and T. W. Lloyd, a local businessman, announced he would donate one city lot and sell a second for half price—\$87.50! Three days later volunteers felled logs up Cache Creek to begin construction.



St. John's Church, c. 1939. 2004.0088.054

The little log church (now St. John's Chapel) was built in 1916 on the northwest corner of the property next to the Hostel. St. John's Hospital was constructed to the south of the Hostel, and consisted of a small four-room building with an operating room, kitchen, and two patient rooms. The hospital was expanded and changed through the years, and then in 1960 relocated to a new, larger building at its current site near the National Elk Refuge on East Broadway.

Other changes were made to the buildings over the years. In 1935 the entryway to the church was moved to the east end rather than the west end to face the new main street, Cache. The stockade-style bell tower was rebuilt with logs running horizontally and was

attached to the church to stabilize it. The bell tower originally doubled as an ice house, and though insulated with sawdust, the ice melt softened the ground causing the tower to tilt.

Both the church and St. John's House are used to this day

and have been placed on the National Register of Historic Places. The current St. John's Episcopal Church and parish hall—built in 1995 to closely match the original buildings—now stand on the site of the old hospital.

To celebrate the centennial, volunteers are creating a cookbook with over 300 favorite family recipes and a wealth of historical anecdotes. They are hoping to have it published soon after the



St. John's Hospital 1992.4313.001

first of the year. You might consider this yet another way St. John's Episcopal Church is continuing its tradition of service to the community.

continued on Page 5

St. John's - continued from Page 4

Resources

Jackson Hole Historical Society and Museum, 2005. *Historic Downtown Jackson Self-Guided Walking Tour*.

St. John's Episcopal Church. "Historical Notes for St. John's Episcopal Church."

Jackson State Bank - continued from Page 1

continued to operate although there was a Presidential Order that all banks in the nation close their doors until they were examined. Remaining open, even though it was difficult, helped keep Jackson's economy moving. The bank remained solvent while banks in other parts of the country failed.

On the occasion of its fiftieth anniversary in 1964, Jackson State Bank celebrated with the community by releasing at face value over 6,000 silver dollars in twenty-three minutes.

When Felix Buchenroth, Jr. was President (1965-1981), the bank started the annual town Easter Egg Hunt. The tradition continued after W. Richard Scarlett was elected President and Chief Executive Officer in 1981, and this spring marked the fortieth year bank employees organized the event. Some of the prizes when Dave Landis joined the bank in 1978 were live chicks, bunnies, and kittens. When he took charge of the hunt that year, he changed the types of prizes and "we stopped handing parents shoe boxes with holes in the lid." Landis says that Pete Lawton, who is now the bank President, won the grand prize bike at the hunt when he was a child.

In 1983, the Jackson State Bank installed Teton County's first and only 24-hour automatic teller machine at the downtown branch. The "Cache Box" has been a busy and popular service to locals and tourists alike ever since.

Under the leadership of Dick Scarlett for the past twenty-seven years, and with the help of so many dedicated employees, the bank has continued to thrive. It currently has 167 employees, four branches, and \$1,076,464,000 in assets (as of 12/31/07). But although so many changes have occurred during the years, the Jackson State Bank has remained committed to two things: their customers and our community.

Resources

Jackson Hole Guide, July 30, 1964.

Jackson Hole Guide, July 24, 1984. Insert "The Jackson State Bank."

Jackson State Bank and Trust website, www.jsbt.com.

Landis, Dave. Senior Vice President/Marketing. Jackson State Bank and Trust. Telephone conversations and emails, September 2008.

New Excursion Explores History of Lodges

In partnership with the Grand Teton Lodge Company, the Jackson Hole Historical Society and Museum recently offered a new, exciting, all-day excursion to Colter Bay, Jackson Lake Lodge, and Jenny Lake Lodge in Grand Teton National Park. The day was lovely, the scenery beautiful, and the history fascinating.

Grand Teton Lodge Company historian Mary McKinney led the interpretive tour. She has served as the lodge company historian for fourteen of her thirty seasons working in Grand Teton National Park, having returned home to Georgia each winter. In the summers Mary gives weekly interpretive tours on the history of Colter Bay, Jackson Lake Lodge, and Jenny Lake Lodge. Mary is currently researching and writing a history of the Grand Teton Lodge Company and the Rockefeller involvement.

The Grand Teton Lodge Company was a great partner in the planning and execution of the Thursday, September 18 tour. Patrick McLaughlin, interpretive specialist for the lodge company, helped make important arrangements providing transportation, a scrumptious lunch in Jackson Lake Lodge's Mural Room, and spaces at the three destinations for the group to meet. Of course, the historical society is deeply grateful to Mary McKinney who captivated tour attendees with her depth of knowledge.

Twenty-five tour participants met at Craig Thomas Discovery Center in Moose, climbed aboard the bus and traveled north. Lokey Lytjen and Karen Reinhart interjected bits of history on the drive to Colter Bay where Mary began her interpretive history program. The group learned that after John D. Rockefeller purchased homesteads and ranches in the 1930s, he unintentionally became an innkeeper, and needed to provide lodging for people who wanted to visit the newly expanded Grand Teton National Park in

cabin chinking methods and corners, and other tales and mysteries of history.

After lunch, Mary McKinney spoke about the construction of Jackson Lake Lodge, the role of John D. Rockefeller in the project, and his desire to have the lodge built on "lunch tree hill" because the view from there inspired him. The lodge was too large for that location, so a site below the hill was selected. However, Rockefeller was determined to have the same view, so he had workers erect scaffolding to make sure the orientation would be the same. Jackson Lake Lodge's architecture was controversial because it diverted from "parkitecture," buildings that were designed to blend with nature. Mary noted that the original approach to the lodge was from Jackson Lake Dam where the view is more harmonious and impressive.

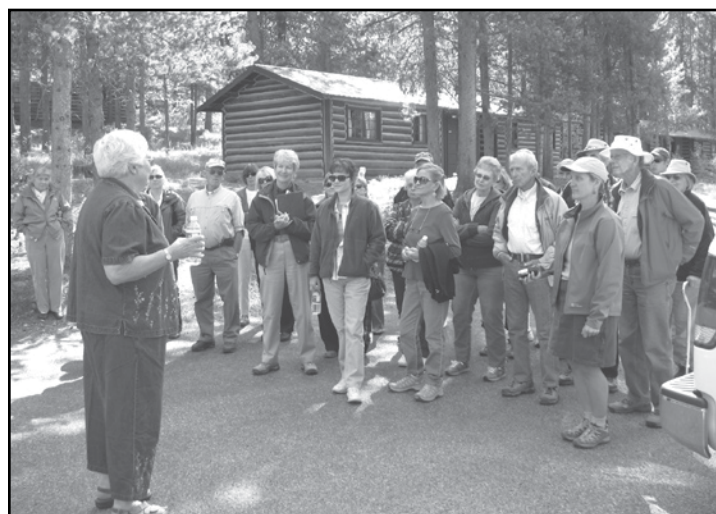
Mary, along with lodge company employee Jerry Ward, interpreted the beautiful murals on display in the Mural Room. Commissioned by John D. Rockefeller, they were painted by artist Carl Roters on birch veneer plywood panels. They vividly depict the fur trade and mountain men, and they alone are worth the visit to Jackson Lake Lodge.

The setting of the tour's grand finale was Jenny Lake Lodge. Inside the beautiful, rustic lobby, Mary brought to life the history of the Danny Ranch and its owner Tony Grace. Tony homesteaded 160 acres in 1922, opening the guest ranch a year later. He named his ranch after Danny, the daughter of a friend. One of the highlights of this interpretive tour was Mary's wonderful rolling commentary on film footage from the Danny Ranch in the late 1920s. It gave people a sense of what life was like then, from jolly times to climbing steep mountainsides on horseback.

After being pressured by the Snake River Land Company to sell the ranch which was adjacent to the newly-formed Grand Teton National Park, Tony Grace sold his ranch to them in 1930. Since then, the cabins and lodge have gone through periods of disrepair and then renovations, even being closed during WWII. Beginning in the late 1950s, Jenny Lake Lodge became the premier resort of the Grand Teton Lodge Company.

The JHSM is very grateful to have had the opportunity to collaborate with Grand Teton Lodge Company and make this excursion available to members of our community. There was enough interest to fill two buses—so watch the newspapers next summer for a repeat of this tour!

The historical society is also pleased to be one of four local non-profit organizations that benefit from donations given through Grand Teton Lodge Company's *Envision* program.



Mary McKinney shares the history of Colter Bay cabins with excursion participants.

1950. Colter Bay Village, Jackson Lake Lodge, and Jenny Lake Lodge were the result of this realization. Colter Bay Village was created by moving old cabins from lands Rockefeller had purchased, repairing and adapting them to their new purpose of housing park visitors. Mary led the group through a section of Colter Bay cabins, sharing her knowledge of the cabins' original locations, various

Get Informed

A quick and easy way for us to inform you of upcoming programs and events is for us to email you. If you are a member or supporter who is not currently on our email list and would like to be, please give us a call at 733-9705 or email us at jhhs@wyom.net.

Tape Player Request

The Historical Society is looking for a working cassette tape player component for use in transferring our oral history tapes to cds. This should not be a portable tape player but one that comes from a stereo system. If you would prefer to loan it, we would be delighted to borrow it for the winter. Please call Robin Allison if you have questions at 733-9605 or email her at jhhsrobin@wyom.net.



CEMETERY MONUMENT CRACKING UP

Did you know it was the Jackson Hole Historical Society and Museum's project to build a monument at the Aspen Hill Cemetery in 1989, dedicated to those who have been cremated? As you can see from the above photograph, the monument has fallen into disrepair. We are looking for a volunteer to take on the coordination of refurbishing the monument. Please give Robin Allison a call at 733-9605 or email her at jhhsrobin@wyom.net if you would be willing to help with this worthwhile project.

Comment Column

Have you ever had a question or comment about an article you read in the newsletter? You now have the opportunity to ask or tell with the new "Comment Column." Mary McKinney, historian for the Grand Teton Lodge Company, had a correction for the Summer 2008 newsletter article "Slim Lawrence: Collector and Character." The article states that Homer Richards sold his homestead to the Snake River Land and Cattle Company. Mary has seen a copy of the original incorporation documents which state that the name is the Snake River Land Company, although it has often been mistakenly referred as the Snake River Land and Cattle Company.

Mary is currently writing the history of the Grand Teton Lodge Company, and needs help with a couple of research questions: Has anyone ever heard about a campground which was in the location of Colter Bay in the early 1950s? Does anyone have information on Charlie Scholl who may have been the general manager for Grand Teton Lodge (and Transportation) Company in the late 1940s? If you have any information, please contact Liz Jacobson at 733-9605 or email her at jhhistory@wyom.net.

Photographs

The JHHSM has a collection of over 14,000 historic photographs. Most of the images used in the newsletter are part of that collection. Copies of these photographs are great for keepsakes, gifts, or decorating your home. Photographs are available in four sizes and in black and white or sepia.

In the coming months, we hope to have several hundred images available for perusal on our website at www.jacksonholehistory.org. Proceeds from the sale of these photographs help support the efforts of the Jackson Hole Historical Society and Museum.



Jackson Hole
Historical Society
& Museum

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