

Newsletter99

Keith's Corner/McGill News

April 9, 2021

Photo Dating-Main Street

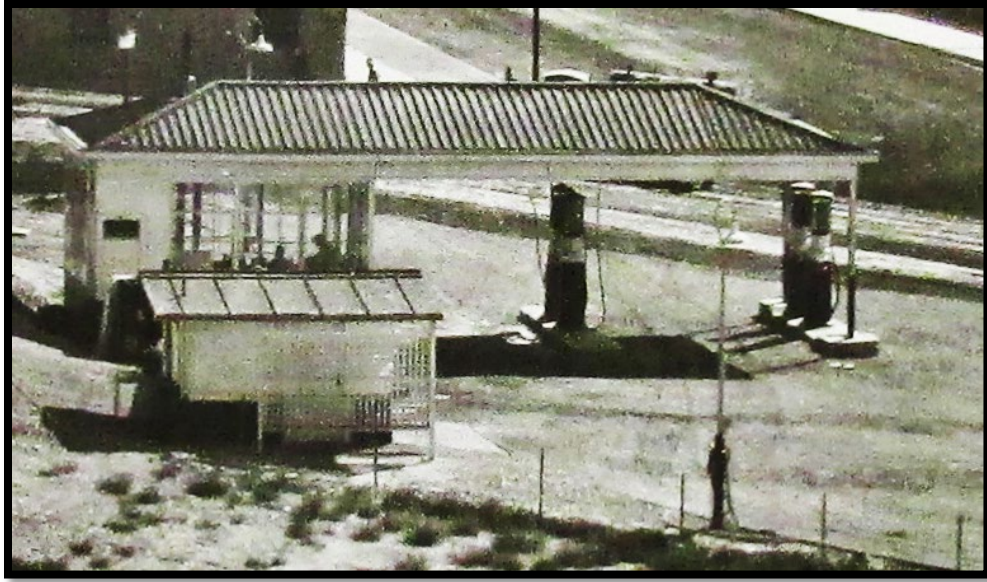
There are so many photos that are not dated or labeled in any way. I like to figure some of them out. So here is a photo with no date and it is McGill's main street.



I like to find the date each building was built. It is almost impossible to do it by the date a business was there, as they changed around a lot.

Looking at this photo, the massive Commissary/Boarding House was built in 1925-26, the service station was a Standard Oil one, started in 1929, the McGill Theater was built in 1928-29, so this photo is after 1929.

Dating photos is one phase of what I like to do. The other phase is looking closer at what is in the photo and compare it with my ragged old memory.



My memories of this gas station were mostly from the WWII years, 1941-46. During the war, with so many men in the military, a lot of their jobs were filled by women. My Mom, Ada Gibson, and June Robb alternated days at the gas pumps. When the local gulag was not in session, my brother, Paul, and I would go with Mom, so I remember it well.

The little shed in the left foreground was gone by 1941, but I think it was for propane. People had smaller tanks, about the size of acetylene tanks, than today.

The object to the right, along the fence with a tall, slim pole above it, was an outside air hose.

The gas pumps were the old ones with the glass top. I remember those but they were gone by 1941. The ones in front of Goodman-Tidball (Bradley's) and Cononelos store were still there. The pumps after 1940 were electric, but the attendant had to turn a small crank handle on the side to erase the former pump reading.

It looks like the gas pump lanes are not paved yet.



The dark pole, I think, was to hold the large Standard Oil sign that might be in the crate at the left of the photo. On the right of the pole is a Highway 50 concrete post. I remember it. To the left of the pole is a fire hydrant. The small sign with the fringe, I think was the Red Crown sign.



Look over the bank and you can see the gable roof of the Goodman-Tidball Store, (Bradley's). The building was originally, Campton Merc. It was turned in 1925 to this position. Notice the shadow from the false front. It looks like the photo was taken around 3 P.M. in the winter months.



Looks like the old Standard Market, which used to be the Ray and Mary O'Neil service station, that was built in 1926 is there. The theater, 1928.

So the first photo would have to be dated after 1929. The only other clue that may help is the lamp posts. Will keep trying to pin this one down.

Now let's look at another photo of main street that is not dated.



The Commissary is there-1926, but the theater is not-1928, so this one can be dated 1926-1928.

McGill News

The Bruce Brunson team is hard at work getting the gas station ready to open.

The McGill Club is still waiting for the new windows, Once they are in, the rest of the restoration will start.

Starting to get some tourists in the Drug Store this spring.

McGill Oldies

1928—October 12—White Pine High School adopts the name “Bobcat”.

1915-February 21—A place called the London Pool Hall was mentioned, but haven’t located where it was. Anybody know??

Old Photos



McGill Club card game in the 1940s.