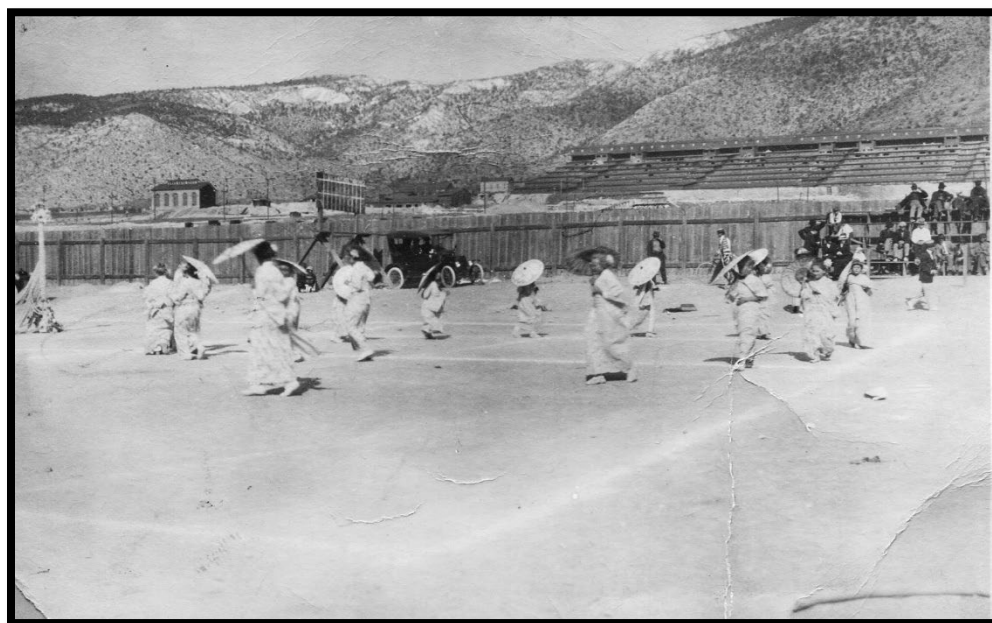


Keith's Corner/McGill News

May 28, 2021

Ballpark Mystery—Still Looking

I have written several articles on ballparks in McGill. , such as Newsletters 45 & 46. As a young McGill heathen, playing “one eyed cat” ball on the old dirt ballpark, with the grandstand and bleachers on the corner of G Avenue and the highway, I had heard old timers tell of an even older ballpark, that was in some other part of town. Then I found this old photo of some Japanese kids on a ball field that looks like it is not too far below the mill, with the grandstand and bleachers on the southeast, but could never find any mention of it in any of my searches. The mill looks close, in the background. Was it above middle town?



Now I ran across an item in a 1910 article on the coming celebration to be held on July 4th. It mentions foot races and a ball game to be held on the ball field near the McGill ranch home.. This would place the ballfield in or close to the old McGill Dairy.

Here is a quotation from the 1910, July 3rd issue of the White Pine News.

“The ball grounds and race track near the farm house are in the very best of condition and those who have recently visited the area, that part of McGill, were surprised to see the number of changes made. The new open air dancing pavilion—said to be the largest in the state.-and the grandstand are now complete. The wading pool and swings for the children, will prove a world of pleasure for the little ones.” A later paper told of a small wading pool with “tepid” water. Could it, have been fed by the warm springs on the north side of the McGill pool?

So I went through my old photos and found these of interest.

The “grove” is the trees in the left center of these photos. There are several flat places near those trees. There were trees still sticking up out of the black sand near the pool when I was a McGill brat in the late 30s. Before the tailings dike, it could have been flat south of the pool and under the black sand.



This was taken about 1907-09.



These were taken in the late 1920 to early 1930s. .



Hopefully, a good photo or reference will show up and solve the issue.

McGill News

We had our usual, Memorial Day snow a week early. Plus, some wild strong winds. Wiped out a lot of nice lilacs and other flowers. McGill got about an inch and Ely about 2-3 inches. Maybe, just maybe, it will warm up a bit.

The guys are still spray washing the theater. They are doing up under the eaves. The brick looks like new. They also installed a metal covering over the chimneys to keep the pigeons from messing down them. Lastly, they are putting a clear, protective coating, of some kind to help prevent damage to the mortar and brick.



Oldies

1920—January 12---Airmail pilot H.G. Boonstra, made a safe landing in the moonlight, at Pittman Field, White Pine airport. He stayed the night at the Northern Hotel.

1910—April 17---L. C. Cononelos has an ad in the White Pine Newspaper, for his Grecian Store in McGill.

Old Photos



Houses on the circle, l-r, general office, General Manager's Mansion, Assistant General Manager's and the Mechanical Engineer's. Notice the newly planted trees. Circa 1908. This is looking south. Pretty swanky for 1908.