

# Lost in Time: The History of Barber, Idaho

## Introduction

TAG Historical Research and Consulting (TAG) prepared this narrative history of Barber, Idaho, a company lumber town, for the Boise City Department of Arts and History. The Southeast Neighborhood Association and the Barber Valley Neighborhood Association requested the information as part of a research proposal through the City of Boise's Neighborhood Reinvestment Grant program.

TAG's historic narrative focuses specifically on Barber within its context as a lumber industry in southern Idaho. This is not a history of the Boise-Payette Lumber Company or its successor Boise Cascade. Barber was located in southeast Boise, currently the site of Harris Ranch and neighboring subdivisions developed by Dallas Harris and associates. This narrative does not include information about Dallas Harris and his association with the history of the area.

TAG also provided public presentations about the history of Barber in 2017, along with bike tours of the area.

## Sources and Methods

Few books focus specifically on Barber history. Jim Witherell's *Log Trains of Southern Idaho*, published in 1989, includes a partial history of Barber in relation to the Intermountain Railroad. Mr. Witherell interviewed numerous Barber residents, and his work provided a solid starting point for this project's research. Other sources brought useful perspectives on the general history of company towns. Nancy Foster Renk's, *A Glorious Field for Sawmills: Humbird Lumber Company 1900-1948*; Keith Petersen's, *Company Town: Potlatch, Idaho, and the Potlatch Lumber Company*; and Linda Carlson's, *Company Towns of the Pacific Northwest* yielded detailed information about lumber company towns as well as information about the lumber industry in the Pacific Northwest. In *Timber and Men: The Weyerhaeuser Story*, authors Ralph W. Hidy, Frank Earnest Hill, and Allan Nevins presented a general background about the timber industry, and specific information related to Barber Lumber Company and Boise-Payette Lumber Company.

Several Idaho State Archives collections proved useful to this study. Examined sources included maps, drawings, and diagrams, which clarified the layout of the town of Barber. Of importance was a map drawn in 1989 by former resident Agg Arrizabala, which details the names and locations of Barber residents between 1924 and 1934. The oral history collection at the Basque Museum and Cultural Center includes numerous interviews with past Barber residents conducted in 2003. The interviews provided rich descriptions of life in Barber during its heyday. Outside of Idaho, the records of the Laird, Norton Company,

held by the Minnesota Historical Society, also provided important supplemental information. Barber Lumber Company and its successors were eventually absorbed by Laird, Norton.

Barbara Perry Bauer met with three people with direct connections to Barber: Marie Overgaard Crandall and her brother Jess Overgaard, both of whom resided in Barber for a brief time in 1933; and Hugh Hartman, whose parents Maurice Hartman and Inis Rose Hartman worked and lived in Barber. Mr. Hartman provided numerous photos of Barber, as well as specific information about women working at the box factory.

## **Lost in Time: The History of Barber, Idaho**

### **Overview**

In the spring of 1903, news of a mammoth lumber mill to be constructed six miles east of downtown Boise made the headlines of the *Idaho Daily Statesman*. The enterprise would include a sawmill, an iron works, and all the features and amenities of a company town. The proposed mill operations encompassed several hundred acres of land on the north and south sides of the Boise River, where Boise pioneers established several large farms and ranches.<sup>1</sup> The operation was undertaken by three investors from Eau Claire, Wisconsin: James T. Barber, Sumner G. Moon, and Charles W. Lockwood. By this time, intensive logging had stripped the forests of the Great Lakes area of trees. Barber, Moon, and Lockwood were among a number of entrepreneurs who looked to the mountain west for a new source of timber. In 1902, attracted by forested land on Grimes Creek and Mores Creek in the Boise Basin, the three men organized the Barber Lumber Company. The flat land six miles east of Boise, with access to the Boise River for log transport, seemed an ideal location for lumber processing. Within a few years, the company built a sawmill, powerhouse, dam, and holding pond for logs, and the town of Barber (shortened from Barberton in 1909) started to take shape.

The mill and town site were an integral part of the Boise landscape for thirty years until 1935, when dwindling supplies of raw lumber and declining profits closed the mill and emptied the town. The town, the sawmill, and almost all associated buildings have vanished. Urban growth in the late twentieth and early twenty-first centuries brought housing developments and new roads that transformed the former townsite. The dam and the powerhouse are the only structures still standing that provide a glimpse of the bustling heyday when the mill operated. The only other vestige is the mill pond, now part of the Barber Pool Conservation area. The names of modern streets and neighborhoods, such as Barber Valley Neighborhood, Barber Station Way, and Sawmill Way, are reminders of the now long-gone community. Beyond these faint clues, the story of Barber might have been

completely lost to time, were it not for its former residents and employees. For decades after the mill's closure, they gathered for an annual picnic to share memories of the town.

The Barber Lumber Company and the Payette Lumber and Manufacturing Company merged to form the Boise-Payette Lumber Company in 1914. In 1957, Boise-Payette became the Boise Cascade Corporation. The Barber Lumber Company's evolution, with its mergers and reorganizations, is not uncommon in such industries, and the eventual dismantling of the town was not unexpected. Company towns across the United States, built for workers in the mining and lumber industries, often disappeared when the resources that supported them were depleted. The history of Barber is not only the story of a company town, but with Barber Lumber Company's ties to the Weyerhaeuser group in North Idaho, Barber is also a piece of the larger saga of Idaho's timber industry.

### **Early Sawmills and Lumber Operations in Boise 1863-1903**

Major gold strikes in the Boise Basin in the early 1860s brought hundreds of miners pouring into the region. With mining came the need for lumber. Placer miners utilized lumber to build sluice boxes and flumes. Lode miners needed timber to support tunnels and to build stamp mills and other structures. Thus, sawmills were often erected on forested slopes near mining camps.

During this time, lumbermen also saw opportunity in the infant city of Boise itself. Boise business owners, the major suppliers for Basin miners, needed more permanent wooden structures to replace the canvas tents that many used for their operations and housing. During Boise's early years, suppliers hauled lumber products by oxen from Walla Walla, Washington. One of the first local sawmills opened in August 1864, when Albert H. Robie and Charles S. Bush moved their sawmill from Lewiston to Boise.<sup>2</sup> The following year, William and Charles Purvine opened a sawmill ten miles from Boise on Stewart Gulch.

Robie and Bush cut and milled their own timber; other mills obtained logs from a variety of sources. Experienced lumbermen from Maine established the Boise River Boom Company in 1865 to supply logs to mills. Loggers typically cut trees in the fall and stacked them in a central location until winter, when they moved them over the snow on sleighs and wagons to the river bank. The Boise River Boom Company cut trees northeast of Boise and experimented with moving the logs down the river to booms or holding ponds closer to Boise. In July 1865, the *Idaho Tri-Weekly Statesman* reported that the company had successfully driven logs on the river. The report stated,

“Henceforth driving logs down the Boise River, from the inexhaustible forests of Alturas county will be a regular thing each summer and Boise city and valley be crippled in no respect for want of lumber.”<sup>3</sup>

Companies like the Boise River Boom Company lightened the load for mills that did not want to undertake the complicated task of securing their own lumber. The technology used to harvest and mill lumber developed as the industry grew, but the process remained labor intensive into the late nineteenth century. Loggers used axes and hand-powered saws to fell trees, remove limbs, and cut the trunks into logs. They then moved and stacked the logs near the edge of the river. If the haul to the river was a short distance, they skidded the logs directly to the bank. If the logs were farther from the water and on steep terrain, they used a chute to send logs down in groups of ten or more. Loggers greased the chute with oil or tallow to keep the logs moving. When the chute flattened out and the logs landed at the river bank, workers moved and stacked the logs with the help of horse teams.

With spring came the log drives. The drivers, known as “river pigs,” transported the logs down the river to holding ponds near Boise. The men worked in the water, dressed in “tin” pants and calked boots.<sup>4</sup> They spiked the logs with a peavey, a tool tipped with a sharp point and adjustable hook, which served as a lever to roll and move the logs.<sup>5</sup> Logging was dangerous work. Some men lost their lives when they slipped on the logs and were crushed between them or trapped underneath and drowned.<sup>6</sup>

Edward C. Sterling and a trio of brothers, John, Patrick, and Andrew Dowling, formed a lumber firm in 1872 that became the foundation for one of Boise’s longest-lived lumber companies. The group initially used horse teams to move logs from the mountains to Boise. Dowling and Sterling’s company later experimented with using the Boise River to transport the logs, determining that the river was more efficient than using horse teams. They built a sawmill east of town, near present day Warm Springs Golf Course, and when Sterling sold out, the brothers acquired a new partner, the aptly named Cutting Clark. The new business, known as Dowling and Company, entered into an agreement with the Boise Valley Ditch Company for ditch access to float logs out of the river to the city. They enlarged the ditch to a width of ten feet, with sloping banks and a depth sufficient to hold four feet of water. The company bought a site for a sawmill near the ditch and used the water to power the mill.<sup>7</sup>

After high water destroyed the mill in 1875, the company rebuilt the mill near the same location and Cutting Clark became the sole owner. While, Clark improved the mill with new machinery,<sup>8</sup> the Dowling Brothers continued to cut timber. They supplied mill owners such as their previous partner, Cutting Clark, as well as Boise businessman William Morris, who owned a sawmill located on the south side of the Boise River. Clark subsequently sold out to Moses Hubbard Goodwin. Goodwin operated the sawmill until 1903 when he sold it to Frank Page and F.H. Mott. It was subsequently known as Page-Mott Lumber and Mott Lumber. The Boise Lumber Company purchased the mill in 1910, when it converted from water power to electric power, and operated it until the 1970s.<sup>9</sup>

Another well-known sawmill, owned by Alexander Rossi and William Ridenbaugh, had a long and complex development. In 1867, Rossi partnered with Albert Robie to build Robie's second lumber mill, located northeast of Boise on Shafer Butte. William Morris joined the partnership in 1877. In 1877, both Robie and Morris died, leaving Rossi the sole owner. He continued to operate the lumber company with a crew of seventy-five men, who cut wood on Cottonwood Creek and floated the logs down the north fork of the Boise River into a holding pond constructed near the intersection of current day Boise Avenue and Protest Road. Rossi's sawmill burned in 1882, after which he sent his lumber to a sawmill owned by William Ridenbaugh. Ridenbaugh, the nephew of Rossi's late partner, William Morris, inherited and expanded his uncle's business interests, including irrigation systems, a flour mill, and a lumber mill. Rossi eventually bought 51% of Ridenbaugh's lumber company.

The early lumber and milling companies established by Dowling, Cutter, Goodwin, Rossi, Ridenbaugh and others built the foundation for the large-scale commercial operations that formed in southern Idaho at the beginning of the twentieth century.<sup>10</sup>

### **Beacon Lights of Progress**

The Barber Lumber Company incorporated in 1902, but delays prevented it from going into production for several years. The corporation purchased several parcels of land near the Boise River—which would provide power—for their two-band sawmill and town. The acquisition included land from Isaac and Mary Coston, early Boise pioneers. Coston had left New York in 1862, originally bound for Walla Walla, before joining miners heading to the newly discovered gold fields in the Boise Basin and claiming land along the Boise River in 1863. The lumber company also bought land from John McMahon, Isaac Bedal, and William Drake, as well as a portion of the Joseph Perrault Ranch. Altogether the company purchased approximately 800 acres.<sup>11</sup>

When James T. Barber visited Boise with his wife following these land acquisitions, he shared his plans for the mill and its associated dam and power plant. The dam would furnish between 1200 and 1400 horsepower of electricity, leaving the company a surplus of 400 or 500 horsepower for public utilities. The venture would also include a planing mill and box factory. The company expected to hire between 200 and 250 men to operate the plant, as well as additional workers to cut timber in the mountains. When discussing his new company with the local newspaper, Barber explained his employees would be primarily men with families and that the company would provide their housing. James T. Barber's ambitious plans called for construction to begin immediately, but it took over two years to complete the dam, power plant, and lumber mill, and to begin construction on residential housing.<sup>12</sup>

By the end of the nineteenth century, such company towns dotted the Mountain West. Hundreds of similar communities emerged in Washington, Oregon, and Idaho to support

mines, mills, and factories, with most employers providing housing, land, or capital for building homes. Along the coastlines of Oregon and Washington, canning companies built towns for cannery workers. Copper mines and other rich mineral lodes initiated mining company towns. But it was the lumber business owners, driven west by the railroad and the depleted timber supplies in the Eastern and Great Lakes, who built the majority of western company towns.<sup>13</sup>

The men who organized the Barber Lumber Company hailed from the Midwest, where they had experience building lumber operations, as well as connections within the industry. Once construction on the sawmill and its buildings began in October 1904, the company's mill architect, William A. Wilkinson, traveled from Minneapolis to oversee plant construction. Wilkinson was one of the best-known sawmill architects in the country. He later worked in north Idaho, designing the Humbird Lumber Company sawmill and plant in Sandpoint, as well as the Potlach and Elk River sawmills for Potlatch Lumber Company.<sup>14</sup> Lawrence Chapman was wooed to Idaho from Wisconsin and named general manager. C.F. Davis and Frank H. Hayner moved to Barber from Keokuk, Iowa; Davis worked as cashier for the lumber company and Hayner as mill superintendent.

Although many of the loggers, sawyers, and teamsters who came to work for the lumber company relocated to southern Idaho from Wisconsin, Minnesota, and Iowa, the company hired local laborers for construction projects.<sup>15</sup> Faris & Kesl, a Boise contracting company, built the dam and power house. Andrew J. Wiley designed the dam and served as the overseeing engineer. Wiley, a well-known engineer, was a student of Arthur De Wint Foote. Foote was instrumental in the development and construction of the New York Canal, one of the largest pre-federal irrigation enterprises in the West. When Foote left for California, Wiley remained in Boise, and eventually became one of the foremost civil engineers in the region, with an expertise in dam building.<sup>16</sup> Calvin Cobb, editor of the *Idaho Daily Statesman*, was a promoter for the project. His son, Lyon, began working for the lumber company in 1904, and rose to the assistant general manager position.

While the construction of the Barber mill project was underway in late 1904, an additional crew of twelve men started work on a rooming house designed for up to 120 men. The rooming house would provide lodging not only for the mill construction crew, but also for the loggers who needed a place to stay when they were cutting timber in the mountains. The company built the rooming house first, followed by blacksmith and machine shops. There were approximately 100 men on the construction payroll, who burned poplars and sagebrush to make room for the sawmill complex.

The *Idaho Daily Statesman* reported recurrently on the construction progress. Optimistic articles predicted that the large timber company operations near Boise would attract other big industry to the area. One reporter stated that, "The huge bonfires of sagebrush which

grow by day and burn by night on the company's ground at the dam site, six miles up the river from Boise, are beacon lights of progress." The article continued with a description of a clean and sanitary camp, and included details about the number and types of buildings under construction. The same report described Mr. Wilkinson's management style, the construction crew, and operations that moved with "mathematical precision."<sup>17</sup>

The company purchased building materials from the Page-Mott lumber company, since they could not yet produce their own. This hiring of local carpentry and construction crews, coupled with the purchase of local supplies, proved an economic boon to Boise that did not go unnoticed. The *Idaho Statesman* reported, "From the minute the first ground was broken for the erection of the company's first building, the Barber Lumber Company has been circulating money in Boise to Boise laborers. This money has not come in dribbles, but in substantial amounts—in big 'wads.' Work has been steady from the first."<sup>18</sup>

In anticipation of the completion of the mill, logging crews cut and stockpiled wood from Barber Lumber Company property on Grimes Creek and Mores Creek. Company owners realized they needed a direct line to the construction site for supplies, so they negotiated with the Oregon Short Line to build a four-mile rail line for transport. They planned to use this same line to carry cut lumber to Boise's freight depot for distribution once the plant was complete.<sup>19</sup> The railroad contracted with the Utah Construction Company to build the extension. The construction company hired crews of Greek laborers to build the line. Money flowed into Boise lumber company coffers when the railroad contracted with local lumber firms for ties for the line.<sup>20</sup> The line was completed in 1905.

Construction on the dam and powerhouse started in November 1904, and by January 6, 1905 the powerhouse was almost complete. It had four bays with turbine wheels for pumping water; one bay had a single pair of wheels and the remaining three had two pairs. In March, the company pulled logging crews from cutting timber to work on building piers and booms for the dam. Faris & Kesl used horse teams with plows and scrapers to dig into the river bank for the dam. In April, the dam was complete.

The dam and powerhouse became an attraction for tourists and business travelers as well as a popular Sunday drive destination for Boise residents.<sup>21</sup> The Commercial Club (a precursor to the Chamber of Commerce) planned excursions to the site to tout the booming economy and cutting edge technology. The company leaders' enthusiasm about the power plant's capacity led them to optimistically discuss the possibility of extending an electric railway to reach the plant and possibly build a destination amusement park—ideas that never came to fruition.<sup>22</sup>

In April 1905, the company sent thirty log drivers to Mores Creek to float the logs cut the previous winter. But low water delayed the drive and the plant could not operate. Later in the year, looking for alternatives to the river, the Barber Lumber Company investigated

building another rail line from the plant to the logging camp on Mores Creek twenty-five miles east of Boise. Manager Lawrence Chapman and logging foreman Cutler Lewis traveled to the West Coast to study how other logging companies transferred logs by rail. A survey for the railroad began in late August, but construction was held up for several years.<sup>23</sup>

August 1905 was a busy month for the lumber company. Mill superintendent Frank H. Hayner supervised a successful trial run of the sawmill to check all machinery and equipment. Crews continued constructing support buildings. Workers completed the planing mill and fruit box factory, as well as a barn near the dam with stalls for thirty horses. The company built a stable for the twenty draft horses the woodcutters used at Mores Creek and Grimes Creek.<sup>24</sup> Barber Lumber Company leaders also signed a cooperative agreement with the local power company, Capital Electric, Light, Motor, and Gas Company. The two companies would provide backup power to the other in case of their own supply failed at any point.

### **“A Substantial Little Town”**

In early 1906 workers still lived in temporary housing as the boarding house was still under construction. Plans called for additional employees as the company grew, especially with the addition of the box factory. The new hires, along with their families, needed permanent housing. In March, L.G. Chapman announced that the local architectural firm Wayland and Fennel would draw architectural plans for five- and six-room houses. “While the houses will not be elaborate, the architects have made an effort to attain architectural beauty in them and according to the plans they will make cozy homes.”<sup>25</sup> The company initially planned a dozen houses, with more to follow in the summer. Using Chapman’s sketches as a guide, Wayland and Fennell also drew plans for a two-story combination hotel and employee boarding house. The forty-five-room hotel had north and south wings connected by a middle section. The first floor included a sitting room, dining room, kitchen, and bedchambers. The south wing housed employees while the north wing was designated as a hotel for the general public.<sup>26</sup> The hotel was built south of the residential section near the sawmill. A store, which later housed the post office, and a school for the mill workers’ children were also built during the year.

Planners laid out the town’s residential section in a grid pattern. First, Second, Third, and Fourth streets ran north-south, and Avenues A, B, C, and D were platted east-west. Crews completed twenty houses by the close of 1906 and the town—then known as Barberton—emerged north of the sawmill, dam, and power plant. Construction continued into the next season. By May 1907 a total of forty-eight houses dotted the town and included graded streets and 300 newly-planted trees.<sup>27</sup> Other accommodations included a water system for domestic and fire purposes. Louis Arrizabala, who lived in Barber during its heydays of the



late 1920s, recalled that houses on First and Fourth streets featured indoor plumbing. The rest of the homes had plumbed outhouses.<sup>28</sup>

A road from Boise, which followed the base of the foothills (today Barber Lane) and connected with First Street (now Council Springs Road), served as the initial access to the town and power plant. In the winter of 1910-1911, Ada County built a bridge known as “the black bridge” across the river, providing a livestock route to and from the winter range.<sup>29</sup> By the 1920s, many people travelled along Boise Avenue, then known as Barber Road, to access the lumber town.

### **Early Struggles**

The long winter season of 1905 and low precipitation had caused difficulties running logs to the mill pond. In March 1906, warmer weather prompted the company to prepare for the drive. Before the Barber logs were sent down river, two local lumber companies, Page & Mott and Rossi Lumber Company, floated logs down the river, over the dam, and into their respective holding ponds. The Barber Company’s run to the pond involved significantly more logs than the smaller companies, however, and they encountered difficulties running such large loads through the rough and rocky river channel. The butt ends of the logs “broomed”, or frayed, due to bouncing and crashing against the rocks. Despite the obstacles, crews persevered and continued the log drives. In May, the logging foreman, Cutler Lewis, estimated they would run over 17,000,000 feet of logs to the mill pond.<sup>30</sup>

The Barber mill plant finally began operation on May 21, 1906 as the *Idaho Daily Statesman* reported:

“At 19 minutes past 2:00 yesterday afternoon, the first log to be cut in the new mill was hauled out of the pond, chain-skidded to the carrier rack. The carrier worked perfectly. The new saw cut perfectly. The log was sliced up with the rapidity of a new butcher working through green cheese.”<sup>31</sup>

Company owners, workers, and residents of Boise overall conveyed confidence that the mill would continue in full operation. But more challenges lay ahead. The mill shut down when accumulated sand and silt from decades of upstream placer mining operations clogged the channel used for sorting logs. To avoid problems with logs becoming buried in the sand or stuck in the mud, the log drives operated during high water, which caused more dirt and debris to accumulate in the log pond behind the dam at the Barber mill.

Sumner Moon, one of the three original partners, urged using Grimes Creek and Mores Creek for log drives instead. Years later he noted, “Experience proved that my judgement

[sic] was very bad.” This strategy proved unreliable, and hurt business to the point the company did not realize a profit.

In order to facilitate transporting logs, James Barber and six other investors organized the Intermountain Railway Company for the purpose of constructing a railroad from the sawmill to Centerville, Idaho, a distance of 45 miles.<sup>32</sup> The quest for investors to finance construction proved difficult. In search of funding, stockholders eventually turned to other lumber companies, first attempting a failed merger with Payette Lumber and Manufacturing Company before appealing to Frederick Weyerhaeuser for a loan, which they did not receive. Problems compounded: lack of funds for the needed railroad, the 1907 financial panic, and charges of timber fraud brought the mill to a standstill.<sup>33</sup>

### **Legal Complications**

In 1907, the Barber Lumber Company became embroiled in legal troubles based on a questionable pattern of timber acquisition during the Territorial years.

Many early residents of Idaho Territory perceived forest timber to be an infinite resource. Nineteenth-century lumbermen cut timber for building construction, telegraph poles, bridge pilings, fence posts, and railroad ties, as well as other uses. Although laws prohibited logging on federal land, they were usually ignored. Early lumbermen frequently cut timber on the public domain without concern for ownership.

Congress passed the 1878 Timber and Stone Act primarily to permit individual settlers to occupy and acquire title to family-size portions of timberland; the Act specifically prohibited anyone buying large tracts from the government for any purpose.<sup>34</sup> The Act offered the sale of 160 acres of land at \$2.50 per acre for personal use. In 1891, the passage of the Forest Reserve Act empowered the president, without further consent of Congress, to proclaim forest “reserves” on United States public land. The law was initiated in part as a response to the growing concern over the loss of forest land. But it seemed to have little effect. The rapid growth of mining, railroads, and related enterprises in the American West created new towns and new demands for timber, and few consequences for unlawful logging.

After Idaho gained statehood in 1890, investors could purchase the right to harvest timber stands but the state owned much of the land on which they stood. In spite of the 1878 Timber and Stone Act, some investors would purchase large tracts of timber on state-owned land in an attempt corner the market. In an effort to curtail such speculation on timberlands, the state imposed a twenty-year logging limit, meaning twenty years after the purchaser gained access to the land, all uncut timber would revert to the state.<sup>35</sup> In addition to the state’s efforts, President Theodore Roosevelt created the Forest Service in

1905 to set parameters on timber cutting, aid in reforestation, and ultimately regulate the amount of timber available for private enterprise.

Those who wanted to build large land holdings for commercial operations found ways to circumvent these restrictions. Some used railway land grants and piecemealed them into larger tracts of land for timber harvest. This was accomplished through a process by which Congress granted the railroads title to every other odd-numbered land section along their railway lines with the intent of expanding transcontinental service. After 1891, if an odd-numbered section of land was already occupied by settlers or if it was part of an Indian reservation, national park, or national forest reserve, railroads were instead given certificates, called “scrip,” which allowed them to select substitute holdings, called lieu lands, in other federally-owned land.<sup>36</sup>

Other methods for obtaining larger tracts of land involved using dummy purchasers. Lumber companies would hire people to file homesteads on federal forested land and then transfer ownership to the companies. By the early 1900s, many people employed this complicated and illegal pattern of land acquisition, including Midwestern lumbermen who came to northern Idaho lured by its rich stands of white pine.

Midwestern investors weren’t the only ones involved in this form of fraudulent land acquisition. Local residents also participated in the illegal transfer of timber land. After leaving office as governor in 1901, Frank Steunenberg embarked on a career as a timber land developer in the Boise Basin. Perhaps during his stint as governor, or possibly through his ties to the Midwest (Steunenberg was originally from Keokuk, Iowa), he caught the attention of Wisconsin lumbermen, including James T. Barber and Sumner G. Moon and others who formed the Barber Lumber Company.<sup>37</sup> The Barber Lumber Company paid Steunenberg \$15,000 to purchase 25,000 acres of timber in Boise Basin along Mores Creek and Grimes Creek. The federal government accused Barber Lumber Company of acquiring federal timber through dummy land purchases orchestrated by Steunenberg.<sup>38</sup>

The company was swept up in another timber fraud lawsuit in 1907, this time focused on another well-known local politician, attorney and Senator William Borah, who handled the company’s legal matters in Idaho. According to the grand jury indictment, Borah advised company officers that transactions used for the dummy purchasers were legal. Borah was ultimately acquitted of any wrong doing, but the lawsuit dragged on for more than five years.

The lawsuit didn’t help business. At the time of the 1910 census, the mill was still not in operation and the box factory only ran intermittently. The town of Barber had not boomed as anticipated. The census counted just fifty-three people in the “Barberton precinct”. Residents of the town included a manager, clerk, and cook at the hotel; an electrician and a night watchman who oversaw the sawmill; and a handful of other workers—mostly single

men—who helped with other general maintenance duties, such as another electrician for the powerhouse, a blacksmith, a bookkeeper, and ditch diggers.

Finally in 1912, the U.S. Court of Appeals in San Francisco ruled that the partners in the Barber Lumber Company were innocent victims of Frank Steunenberg, who was assassinated in 1905. The State of Idaho appealed the case to the U.S. Supreme Court. At that point, William Borah interceded on behalf of the lumber company and the case was dropped on March 16, 1912. Not long after, Barber Lumber Company merged with Payette Lumber Company to become Boise-Payette Lumber Company, and finally went into full operation.

### **A New Era Begins**

With the 1907 financial panic and lawsuit behind them, the lumber company set the stage for the big boom. Midwestern investors incorporated the Boise-Payette Lumber Company on December 24, 1913, with a subscribed capital of \$9,000,000. William Carson, Sumner G. Moon, and William Musser, all stockholders in the Barber Lumber Company, invested in the new corporation. Other investors included Barber Company assistant general manager Lyon Cobb, and the new general manager, Minnesota lumberman Charles A. Barton. Frederick Weyerhaeuser also invested in the new firm to expand his interests into Idaho.

Though operations would be delayed another year, the organization of the Boise-Payette Lumber Company was completed on March 9, 1914 with the acquisition of the Payette Lumber and Manufacturing Company and Barber Lumber Company. These properties consisted of 200,126 acres of timber lands and approximately two billion feet of standing timber, together with the manufacturing plant at Barber. The Barber Lumber Company also held rights to the Intermountain Railway Company, which had been incorporated in 1907.

Due to the disastrous attempts to drive logs down Grimes and Mores Creeks in 1905, company officials now understood that the first order of business would be to secure a rail line to move lumber from the mountains to the mill.<sup>39</sup> Fortunately, an opportunity presented itself. In 1911, the U. S. Reclamation Service began construction of Arrowrock Dam, seventeen miles from Boise, as part of a large-scale irrigation project. The government built approximately twelve miles of railroad from Barber to the dam site to transport construction materials. When the dam was completed in 1915, the Boise-Payette Lumber Company purchased the line, known as the Boise & Arrowrock Railroad, for \$70,000 and extended it from the dam to Centerville. The company finally had a reliable means for hauling the logs to the mill.

On May 1, 1915, the first train of the Intermountain Railway left Barber for its inaugural trip. The route traveled along the Boise River, up the Mores Creek bed, and then on the new railway along Grimes Creek to Big Bend, two miles below Centerville. It returned the same

day at six o'clock in the evening. Its primary purpose was to haul lumber, but the company's public charter allowed passenger travel, which they provided for those "who desire to visit beautiful, natural retreats without discomfort and at small cost."<sup>40</sup> The railway remained in operation until it was abandoned in 1935.

Thanks to the completion of the railway, the Boise-Payette lumber mill started operation on July 21, 1915, after a seven-year hiatus. Meanwhile, the company had expanded and upgraded the box factory, added more dry kilns, improved the Barber mill, and added another band sawmill. Boise-Payette's fully operational three-band mill ushered in the long-awaited boom of Barber.

The additional band saw increased the work capacity to 200 men, working day and night shifts. One-hundred thirty men lodged at the rooming house and additional new houses accommodated the influx of workers. The company painted and refurbished existing houses for new tenants.<sup>41</sup> Some of the mill's employees had begun working with the Barber Company in 1907, while others followed Charles Barton from Minnesota. But even more were needed for the growing operation. After the logs were cut at the sawmill, workers moved the lumber to the sorting and stacking sheds, then to the dry kilns, next to an unstacking building, and finally to the planing mill. The company employed additional workers at the box factory and at the blacksmith shop and round house associated with the Oregon Shortline (OSL) railroad. The OSL had a half-mile long siding for shipping logs from the sawmill to Boise. According to company plans, at full capacity the plant employed at least 400 men, and an additional 300 for the logging operation.<sup>42</sup>

When the mill shut down between 1908 and 1914, Arrowrock Dam construction crews affiliated with the U.S. Reclamation Service rented rooms at the Barber Hotel. After the mill began full production again in 1915, the hotel served mostly single men who worked at the mill and logging crews who were between seasons.<sup>43</sup> Ted Hoffman managed the hotel for several years, including supervising a crew that included several Chinese cooks and dishwashers.<sup>44</sup> During peak production, the noon whistle drew many employees to the hotel for lunch.

Livestock managers were also part of the company roster. A large barn west of the lumber yard housed forty horses, which helped transport wood from the dry yard to the planer. Barber also served as a transfer point for shipping livestock. Over the years, a stock pen at the junction of the Oregon Short Line and the county road housed thousands of sheep awaiting transit to other locations. Bleating sheep, the hum of the sawmill, and the rumble of railway traffic created a noisy symphony few today would recognize.

In 1916, the company expanded operations beyond Boise to Emmett, where they constructed a mill to produce lumber from timber located in the Payette River watershed. The company established retail yards throughout southwest Idaho for the convenience of

farmers in rapidly growing irrigation districts. The retail yards also offered free design and architectural services for homes and farm buildings, which in turn enhanced sales.

The majority of Barber's employees were male, until the United States entered World War I in 1917 and labor became scarce. At first, during the summer months, high school boys took the place of men who left for the army. When school started in September, however, factory foreman F.J. Batzhold recruited twelve to fifteen women for the box factory. The factory manufactured fruit boxes and sold them to orchards in southwest Idaho, Utah, and Oregon, which helped provide the company with steady income even during difficult financial periods. In order to allow the new workers time to attend to household chores and cook the family meals, the company structured their schedule to start fifteen minutes later and end fifteen minutes earlier than other employees, with an extra half hour for lunch. Many of the women enjoyed the work and opportunity to make extra money, and Batzhold was pleased with their productivity and the quality of their work. The company continued the practice of hiring women to work in the box factory following the war.<sup>45</sup>

The future looked bright for Boise-Payette. The company prospered during World War I and success continued through the short postwar boom, which helped the company weather the 1920-21 recession.<sup>46</sup> When the census taker made the rounds in 1920, the town's population had tripled.<sup>47</sup>

### **The Golden Years of a Company Town (1915-1930)**

A tight-knit community developed in Barber, which at its peak included 104 houses. Middle management and supervisors lived on First and Fourth streets, Second and Third streets housed other employees with their families, and single men roomed at the boarding house. Town residents included experienced loggers and mill workers from Midwestern states, along with Norwegian, Swedish, and Basque immigrants. Unlike other company towns, and possibly because Boise was only six miles away, the general managers did not live at Barber. Charles Barton lived on prestigious Warm Springs Avenue, a convenient location with easy access to both Barber and his offices in downtown Boise.

Barber offered similar amenities to other company towns in Idaho and the Pacific Northwest: the town featured a store, electric power, a bath house and barber shop, and a community hall. A 1916 description of one- and two-story houses at Barber described the structures as "well, built, modern homes, nicely painted and of a homelike appearance."<sup>48</sup> Rent ranged from \$8 to \$22 per month based on the number of rooms in the house. The houses' modest architecture conveyed practicality. Some one-story houses only contained a kitchen, bedroom, and living room. Other one-story houses were a little larger with two bedrooms, a living room, and a kitchen. The two-story houses might have up to three bedrooms, a kitchen, living room, and bathroom.

Brothers Luis and Agustin “Agg” Arrizabala lived in Barber with their family in a two-bedroom house for \$18.50 per month. Luis’s parents slept in one bedroom, he and his two brothers shared the second bedroom, and his sister slept on a couch in the living room. Their home, like others, included a cellar where his parents stored vegetables over the summer, a potbelly stove for cooking and heating, and an outdoor plumbed bathroom. While most Barber residents burned wood for heat and cooking, the houses on First Street were an exception. Those residents enjoyed the luxury of steam heat piped from the power plant into their homes.

Another pair of brothers, Jim and Steve Canning, lived in Barber during the 1930s and 1940s. Their father Phil worked as a dry yard foreman, where crews stacked lumber in piles to air dry. As children, the brothers earned spending money by picking up excess wood from the stacking sheds, or pieces that had fallen from loads headed to railroad freight cars. The company paid the boys 25 cents each for stacking a cord of wood, and then made a modest profit by selling the salvaged wood to residents for \$1.50 a cord.<sup>49</sup> The company hired children for a variety of tasks. Both Canning brothers remembered cutting thistles in the mill yard for ten cents an hour. This provided them with additional spending money, but for other Barber kids, work wages went to help their families. Agg Arrizabala, for example, started working at twelve years of age to support his family after his father was injured in an accident.

Some company towns provided an onsite doctor and hospital. Barber did not. A doctor from Boise came to town once a week for regular office hours, while residents relied on mill staff for minor medical emergencies. Jim Canning recalled that Ted Hoffman, the hotel manager, doctored minor bruises and scrapes and often patched up town kids’ injuries. But mill work was dangerous. Men were maimed and killed in a variety of horrifying accidents, such as when they were dragged into saws, slipped and drowned in the mill pond, or were struck by logs. Victims who suffered serious injuries were rushed to Boise as quickly as possible. The Barber community gathered together in the face of death and disease, but Barber did not have a cemetery and the dead were sent to mortuaries in Boise. Funeral services were held at Boise churches.<sup>50</sup>

The Pacific Northwest was dotted with company towns built in remote areas; Barber was different. It was relatively close to a city with grocery stores, entertainment, and shopping. But the Barber Lumber company still provided shopping and entertainment for employees. The company built the Barber Store in 1906, near the residential area on the corner of Avenue A and Fourth Street. Boise-Payette expanded the store when they took over operations. The Barber store stocked meat, milk, bread, clothing, and other necessities. The company issued a coupon book or scrip that employees used to make purchases against their earnings. Luis Arrizabala recalled that usually by the end of the month his father’s

check was already spent from purchases made at the store—a typical situation in company towns throughout the country.<sup>51</sup>

Barber residents had additional options for some basic staples. Tom Edwards delivered vegetables from his farm on Hill Road, and David Tate delivered milk from the Triangle Dairy across the river. Some residents grew their own fruit and vegetables in their large back yards. The nearby foothills offered plentiful game. Many Barber kids remembered hunting deer, rabbits, and other wild game throughout the year.<sup>52</sup>

Students made the short walk from their homes to Barber School, located at the northeast corner of town behind the residential section. The large two-story school accommodated the first through eighth grades. Students attended Boise High School from ninth to twelfth grades. The population of the company school fluctuated with the town's. It peaked during the 1920s with about 120 students, which included children from nearby farms and ranches.

During Barber's heyday, three teachers and a principal taught the students. Teachers organized plays, musicals, and Christmas pageants. Children showed off their accomplishments at county fair exhibits and at regional spelling bees. The Barber Parent Teacher Association organized fundraisers for many purposes, including salary bonuses for teachers and money to improve the school lawn.

The school served as the gathering place for many community activities, but eventually the burgeoning school population made hosting such events more difficult. In late December 1917, the company constructed a large hall with "...space on one side for dancing or moving picture entertainments and on the other side for billiard tables. There will be a soda water fountain and candy and cigar stand, and across the front a large screened porch." Barber did not have any churches so the hall was also designated for religious services. In this case, worshippers entered the building through a special entrance, away from the billiard tables.<sup>53</sup> Priests and ministers traveled from Boise to lead services and special ministries, with several denominations using the hall on a rotating basis. By the 1930s, residents used the hall less frequently for religious activities, and commonly called it the "pool hall."

### **Building Community in a Company Town**

Luis and Agg Arrizabala, Jim and Steve Canning, and Bernard Nelson remember growing up in Barber with fondness. "It was a very nice town," noted Luis. Phil Canning, Jim and Steve's father, claimed Barber was the best place in the world to raise kids. As children, Jim and Steve roamed the streets of the small town playing kick-the-can and hide-and-seek. They spent summers swimming and fishing in the river. During the winter, if the river or mill pond froze they offered an excellent place to ice skate for both kids and adults. Lois Magill, whose husband operated the power plant, recalled that during ice skating parties on the



pond, “it was my job to keep the fire and roast wieners, because I couldn’t skate, except on my nose.”<sup>54</sup> In the winter, residents took their cardboard boxes to Clay Hill—located behind the town—for a bit of sledding. Barber town children explored the hills around town, hiking to Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) camps, and hunting deer and other animals. Sometimes they would walk the six miles to Boise to swim in the Natatorium (a public swimming pool) or go to a movie.<sup>55</sup>

Barber kids participated in a variety of sports. They played baseball and basketball wearing uniforms provided by the lumber company. The “Lumberjacks” participated in tournaments throughout the valley. Barber had a baseball field, and eventually the dance hall was converted into a basketball court. In addition to baseball and basketball, Barber’s amenities also included a “rough and ready” 18-hole golf course built by Barber employees on sand covered with a light coat of oil. Barber golfers hosted teams from the American Legion, and Plantation and Hillcrest golf courses, among others, on their makeshift course.<sup>56</sup>

Civic, religious, and social organizations also flourished in Barber. Lois Magill organized a Sunday school that served around 150 children; the Barber Amusement Club held dances on a regular basis; and the Barber Community Circle Club hosted card parties, arranged community clean up events, and put on theatrical productions and plays. The clubs met at the community hall or in the homes of club members. Barber also hosted active branches of national organizations. The Loyal Legion of Loggers and Lumbermen, typically referred to as the “Four L”, organized in Barber in 1918. The United States War Department had formed this company union in 1917 as a counter to the Industrial Workers of the World. Lyon Cobb organized the Barber branch, which was most active between 1918 and 1922. Participation dropped after Cobb’s death in 1921.<sup>57</sup>

Residents of most company towns represented diverse ethnic groups, but Barber is likely unique with its population of an estimated 15 to 20 percent Basques. Luis Arrizabala recalled that when his family first moved to Barber, some residents felt wary of the Basque people. But he recalled most people accepted Basques into the community once they proved to be hard workers, kept their house and yards clean, and minded their own business.<sup>58</sup>

Throughout its history as a company town, Barber was a social place. In addition to the formal events and group activities, residents held informal gatherings such as card parties, dances, and dinners. When illness or death occurred, residents came to the aid of families and friends with food, money, or other support. The town was a tightknit community, which was evident for decades to come. In 1941, just a few years after the town shut down and mill operations moved to Emmett, Lois Magill led a group of former Barber residents to organize a summer reunion picnic, a tradition which continued into the twenty-first

century. Many of the original residents are gone, but relatives and descendants still gather periodically for coffee or lunch, trading stories about the vanished town.

### **The End of an Era**

In 1933 the Boise-Payette Lumber Company announced plans to close the Barber mill. The decision, according to Sumner Gilbert Moon, was “the result of two factors—the virtual exhaustion of the available timber in Boise Basin, and the consummation of a trade with the forest service, whereby the company’s inaccessible holding in the Crooked River country are exchanged for more accessible timberlands in Valley and Adams counties.”<sup>59</sup>

All the remaining timber stored at the mill and at the logging camps still had to be cut and processed, so it took over three years for the mill to gradually shut down and the town to be completely abandoned. The company relocated some of the Barber mill equipment to its Emmett plant, but sold the remaining livestock, farm machinery, vehicles, and buildings. They closed the company store and sold the merchandise to the Golden Rule store in Boise. The company sold the store building for \$650 to an unnamed buyer, who moved the store to a new location. The post office closed and mail delivery stopped.<sup>60</sup> The golf course fell quiet.

Some former employees bought company houses, including a few who transferred to the Emmett plant and moved their houses with them. But most company houses were bought and relocated to various lots on streets throughout Boise, such as Garden Street, Palouse Street, and Idaho Street. Some were relocated to the old Soldier’s Home—now the site of Veteran’s Memorial Park—and others to Reserve Street. The smallest houses sold for \$10 while the larger homes fetched up to \$250.00.

Idaho Power purchased the dam and powerhouse in 1937. By 1939, the Boise-Payette Lumber Company sold the town and mill site as well. Boise School District purchased the school, but eventually enrollment dropped and the district sold it to a private owner in the 1950s. It was one of the few Barber buildings that remained in its original location. It was used as a barn for many years and remained a landmark of Barber until it was torn down in the 1970s.

The town and mill site eventually came under the ownership of Dallas Harris who operated a sawmill, Producer’s Lumber, west of the original Barber mill. Mr. Harris turned the Barber mill site into grazing land for his livestock. Thirty years after the mill closed, he developed the town site into a mobile home park. Beginning in 1999 the original mill site transitioned into a major residential subdivision known as Harris Ranch.<sup>61</sup>

The blast of the mill whistle and the hum of the railroad that once signaled a lumber town are distant memories. The mill pond is now a conservation pool and the powerhouse is in

private hands. Barber State Park harkens to the area's history, although the site sits on land not originally associated with the company town. Street names in the subdivision built on the site of the lumber mill serve as faint reminders of a town now vanished. Though a piece of Barber's history has been captured through interviews with past Barber residents, the full scope of the Barber experience remains lost to time.

## **Notes**

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- 1 "Plans Completed for a Mammoth Undertaking," *Idaho Daily Statesman*, May 5, 1903, p.1.
  - 2 "New Saw Mill," *Idaho Tri-Weekly Statesman*, August 20, 1864 p.?
  - 3 "The Boise River Boom Company," *Idaho Tri-Weekly Statesman*, July 27, 1865 p.2
  - 4 Tin pants were made of tightly woven cotton treated with paraffin which made a material that resisted water and sharp objects. Mark A. Gullickson, "Work Pants Worn By Loggers in Western Oregon 1920 -1970. M.A. Thesis
  - 5 Nancy Renk, *A Glorious Field for Sawmills: Humbird Lumber Company, 1900 -1948* pp 60 -65.
  - 6 "Log Driver Were Dangerous, River Pigs Had to Be Tough," *Idaho Statesman*, July 23, 1939, p. 13
  - 7 "Water Power," *Idaho Tri-Weekly Statesman*, July 19, 1873 p.2
  - 8 New Lumber Mill" *Idaho Daily Statesman*, April 23, 1874 p. 2;"Mr. Cutting Clark," *Idaho Daily Statesman*, November 20, 1977 p. 3.
  - 9 "Boise's Noisiest Pioneer", *Idaho Daily Statesman*, February 3, 1929, Section 2, p.1.; Jim Witherell, *History Along the Greenbelt*", 39-42 "Pioneer Business Firm Falls Before Progress" March." *Idaho Daily Statesman* July 30, 1973 p. 12
  - 10 Carol Lynn MacGregor, *Boise, Idaho 1882-1910: Prosperity in Isolation* pp 95-98
  - 11 The Coston cabin was moved from its original location to Julia Davis Park in 1933.
  - 12 "Lumber Company Incorporates," *Idaho Daily Statesman* May 13, 1903 p.5.
  - 13 Linda Carlson, *Company Towns of the Pacific Northwest* pp.6 -13.
  - 14 Nancy Renk, *A Glorious Field for Sawmills* p.27
  - 15 "Brief Local News," *Idaho Daily Statesman*, May 9, 1905 p.3 and May 14, 1905 p.3.
  - 16 "Noted Boise Engineer, Andrew J. Wiley, Dies," *Idaho Daily Statesman*, October 9, 1931, p. 1.
  - 17 "Work of the Barber Lumber Company," *Idaho Daily Statesman*, October 30, 1904 p 13.
  - 18 "The Barber Lumber Company," *Idaho Daily Statesman*, December 31, 1905 p.19.
  - 19 "Will Arrange for Extension," *Idaho Daily Statesman*, December 5, 1904 p.5; "The Barber Lumber Company," December 31, 1905, p.. 5.
  - 20 "Brief Local News" *Idaho Daily Statesman* 03/13/1905 p.5 and 03/15/1905 p.5
  - 21 "Brief Local News"; Completed This Week" *Idaho Daily Statesman*, April 6, 1905 p.5" The Barber Dam and Power House still stand in 2017 - the last remaining physical structures related to Barber. They were listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1978 for their significance as one of the few remaining power houses of the 1900s.
  - 22 "Power Plant at the Barber Dam," *Idaho Daily Statesman*, January 6, 1905; "Will Install Power Plant," January 11, 1905
  - 23 *Idaho City World* in IDS 04/08/1905. "Road to Timber" *Idaho Daily Statesman*, August 7, 1905 p.6 ;"To Survey for Road and Dam" *Idaho Daily Statesman* August 12,1905 p.6.
  - 24 "Brief Local News" *Idaho Daily Statesman* 08/22/1905p.3
  - 25 "Laying Out Town At Barber. Company Will Commence Erection of a Dozen or More Houses Shortly," *Idaho Daily Statesman*, March 18, 1906 p. 9.
  - 26 "Brief Local News. Hotel at Barber Mill," *Idaho Daily Statesman*, May 25,1906 p. 4.
  - 27 "Much Activity at Barberton", *Idaho Daily Statesman*, May 24,1907 p8.
  - 28 Arrizabala, Louis. Interview by Chris Bernoski August 2000. Basque Museum & Cultural Center, Boise, Idaho
  - 29 "To Build Two Much Needed Bridges," *Idaho Daily Statesman*, December 30, 1910 p.3
  - 30 "Barber Lumber Company's Plans. Eastern Men Interested in Big Boise Concern Here to Hold Conference." March 23,1906 p. 5; "Logs on Way to Barber Mill," March 31,1906 p. 5; "Log Drive Rushing Along toward Mill. Recent Rains Prove Blessing to Barber Lumber Company." April 26, 1906 p.3; "Log Drive is Coming" May 6,1906 p. 7 *Idaho Daily Statesman*.
  - 31 "Barber Mill to Start up Today. Big Saws to Cut up the First Log at 7 O'clock This Morning." *Idaho Daily Statesman*, May 21, 1906 p. 3 and "Big Mill is Hard At Work. Barber Plant Begins Operations under Most Auspicious Conditions" *Idaho Daily Statesman* May 22, 1906 p. 5.

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- <sup>32</sup> Articles of Incorporation of the Intermountain Railway Company, July 19, 1907. The incorporators included James T.Barber, James A. Smith, Chester D. Moon, C.W. Lockwood, L.G. Chapman, Lyttleton Price and Crawford Moore.
- <sup>33</sup> Hidy, Hill and Nevins, *Timber and Men: the Weyerhaeuser Story*, p.261.
- <sup>34</sup> Jim Witherell, *The Log Trains of Southern Idaho*, p. 15. Merle Wells explains the complicated issue of timber fraud in "Timber Frauds on Crooked River", *Idaho Yesterdays*, Vol.29, Number 2, 1985, pp. 2-14.
- <sup>35</sup> Keith Petersen, *Company Town: Potlatch, Idaho and the Potlatch Lumber Company*, pp. 20 -22.
- <sup>36</sup> *ibid*
- <sup>37</sup> J.T. Barber and Sumner Moon organized numerous small lumber companies and were part of a larger network of lumber owners who had ties to Frederick Weyerhauser who led the timber industry in the Pacific Northwest.
- <sup>38</sup> Dale Fisk, "Tales of Timber Fraud," *Adams County Record*, October 28, 2010 p. 5.
- <sup>39</sup> Thirteenth Census of the United States. 1910. Enumeration District #1. Barberton.
- <sup>40</sup> Barber Lumber Company, "Birth and Growth of the Barber Lumber Company" Laird Norton papers Minnesota Historical Society. MS 151.
- <sup>41</sup> "Scenes Along the Intermountain Ry, from Boise into Boise Basin," *Idaho Daily Statesman*. January 3, 1915 p. 8.
- <sup>42</sup> "Wheels of Industry Begin to Hum Today. Barber Mill Reopens This Morning after Long Idleness", *Idaho Daily Statesman*. July 21, 1915 p.7 "Here's the Best News for 1915 in the Paper Today", *Idaho Daily Statesman* January 3, 1915 p. 16.
- <sup>43</sup> Witherell, pp 18-19.
- <sup>44</sup> Fourteenth Census of the United States, 1920. Enumeration District #22, Barber Precinct, Sheet 87 B.
- <sup>45</sup> "Women Quickly Become Expert at Making Fruit Boxes in Barber Factory", *Idaho Daily Statesman*, September 29, 1917 p. 3.
- <sup>46</sup> Hidy, Hill, and Nevins, *Timber and Men: the Weyerhaeuser Story* ,p.266.
- <sup>47</sup> Witherell, pp.18-20.
- <sup>48</sup> "The Timberman" April 1916, Volume 17, pp. 46-47.
- <sup>49</sup> Arrizabala, Luis. Interview by Chris Bernoski, August 2000. Basque Museum & Cultural Center, Boise, Idaho. Arrizabala Agg Interview by Chris Bernoski and Tim Nelson, August, 2000, Basque Museum & Cultural Center, Boise, Idaho.
- <sup>50</sup> Nelson, Bernard Interview by Chris Bernoski, August 2000. Basque Museum & Cultural Center, Boise, Idaho.
- <sup>51</sup> Arrizabala, Luis interview.
- <sup>52</sup> Canning and Arrizabala interviews.
- <sup>53</sup> "Community Hall To Be Built For Town Of Barber," *Idaho Daily Statesman*, December 8, 1912 p.5.
- <sup>54</sup> Dianne Haasch, "Picnic for Pioneers Scheduled Sunday in Park," *Idaho Daily Statesman*, July 14, 1960 p. 8
- <sup>55</sup> *ibid*
- <sup>56</sup> Canning interview. "Legion Golfers Defeat Barber", *Idaho Daily Statesman*. May 7, 1934 p. 7.
- <sup>57</sup> Petersen, *Company Town*, pp.164-167.
- <sup>58</sup> Arrizabala, Luis.
- <sup>59</sup> "Boise Payette to Close Mill," *Idaho Daily Statesman*. August 31, 1933 p.1.
- <sup>60</sup> Annual Report of Boise Payette Lumber Company" May 17, 1937 Laird Norton Company, Folder 151.
- <sup>61</sup> Further work needs to be done on the history of the lumber industry in Boise following the closure of the Boise-Payette Barber plant. This narrative was not intended to cover that subject.