

QUINN DIVISION

As

Recorded by Foyer Olson  
Forest Ranger  
March, 1941

"The Bordoli ranch on the west side of the Quinn Canyon Division was original used as a stopping place for oxen and freight outfits. The oxen were shod in a special frame design to hold them while shoeing. Hence, the name Ox Springs. This ranch was purchased by Bordoli from Ronald McDonald who was the original owner in 1890. The place is still owned by Bordoli's, who have improved it and ran both sheep and cattle on the Forest.

Nyala was taken up by Herman Risky in 1913. He operated a gas station and lunch counter. Gasoline sold for 90 cents a gallon. Emery Garrett later purchased the place, piping the water from Willow Creek and putting the place under cultivation. Forest Home Ranch, near the north end of the Quinn Canyon Division was settled about 1880 by a man by the name of Lamb. Prior to that time it was used as a stopping place by the Shoshone Indians. Lamb was killed later by Indian Charlie in a dispute over the ownership of some horses. A.B. Gardner came and took the ranch over in 1901. The small spring that furnished water for only a few acres was developed into a good irrigation spring that waters the present ranch. Approximately 350 head of cattle were run on the area between Big Springs and Rimrock Canyon, and it is estimated that twice as many wild horses used the same range.

The ranches located on little Cherry Creek have been the center of farming and livestock industry since the settlement of the Quinn Canyon Division. While the available farm land in the canyon is limited, the climate is conducive to the production of hay, grain, vegetables and fruits such as peaches, apples, cherries, pears, and grapes. Some of the finest fruits produced in the state were raised within the Forest boundary.

Joe Jones was the first settler on Little Cherry Creek (date of settlement is not known to me). He ran a large herd of cattle. After several transfers Lewis Sharp acquired the ranch and it has since been known as Sharp until 1938 when the Post Office changed its name to Adavan. The name Adavan was derived from Nevada, spelled backwards.

Little Cherry Creek was headquarters for the Shoshone Indians. Until about 1900, 250 Indians made it their home. Since that time they have all left except one family, Tom Adams. Tom owns a ranch just outside the Forest boundary and runs cattle on the Forest. He will long be remembered by the residents as a peaceful, industrious neighbor.

Greenberry Welch settled Pine Creek in the spring of 1902. He was the first settler south of Sharp.

Albert Welch, son of Greenberry Welch homesteaded his present ranch on Cottonwood in 1910.

### Origin of Names

"Quinn Canyon got its name from the Piute Indians. Quinn meaning green. A small meadow being located just outside the Forest boundary is Quinn Canyon.

Troy Peak is named in honor of the miners who came to Troy Canyon from Troy."

### Early Conditions

"Tom Adams, "range much better in the early days than present time. Lots of grass and lots of cattle. Never fed cattle and could get feed off the range at any time."

Victor B. Gardner, "ranges were in good condition. No feeding done in the winter".

Mrs. Santana R. Bordoli, "lots of grass, better than now. Ranges well stocked by 1890".

Clarence R. Moorman, "Indians used to cut brunch grass with butcher knives and sell to the teamsters. Range much better before sheep came into area in large bands".

The Troy mining district is located in Troy Canyon on the Quinn Canyon Division. In October, 1873, Blue Eagle lode and mill site was patented by William B. Roberts. Roberts came from Troy, England and with the English capital developed a mine and put up a mill. It is reported that some silver and copper ore was shipped from the mine. The mill which was constructed of brick made in the canyon, except for the fire brick which came from Paisley, Scotland, was a failure.

At the present writing, the Old English Gold Corporation is operating a mine and mill and is producing some gold."

### Miscellaneous Historical Events

"One Forest fire about 1904 - A fire was started by a prospector near the mouth of Troy Canyon in the spring of the year while clearing a place for a garden. This fire brunt out the main and north fork of Troy, south fork of Irwin Canyon and over the top of the mountain into Sherwood Wash and Pole Canyon. Snow put it out in the fall.

Timber Sales - Timber sales as a rule have been sales at cost. The majority having been for juniper fence posts. One small mill on Quinn Canyon has been operated at intervals since 1920 in Scofield and Rimrock Canyons. Species of timber that has been cut was primary western yellow pine (Populus Ponderosa) with some Alpine fir. Yellow pine logs range in size from 36" D.B.H. with 5 through 16 foot logs.

Prior to the time the Forest was established, the majority of the original stands of timber were cut and taken out. Sawmill, "Troy, and

Little Meadow Canyon were logged during the boom days of Hamilton. Most of the logging was done with ox teams.

The herd of mountain sheep on the Quinn Canyon Division are about holding their own in numbers. In 1923 the Grant State Recreation Ground and Game Refuge was created by proclamation by the Governor of Nevada. This area includes all Forest lands north of the road leading from Railroad Valley to Garden Valley to Cherry Creek.

The home of the mountain sheep is in the vicinity of Troy Peak, where they spend the entire year on the Forest.

Information received from early residents revealed the fact that during the early days of settlement the stately mountain sheep were quite numerous. Present numbers is estimated at about 80 head.

In 1939 the County Commissioners in Nye County planted Chucker part-ridges on several ranches adjacent to and on the Forest. The Chucker is an upland bird and were introduced with the hope that they would migrate into the mountains.

During the period of 1928 to 1933 a concerted effort was made by permittees, trappers and Forest officers to eliminate the wild horses on the White Pine Division and Quinn Canyon Division. Approximately 700 head of horses were killed on and adjacent to the Forest, after this drive only a few mustangs remained. From these and a few that have come in from the outside area, they are again increasing quite rapidly. Control measures will have to be taken to keep them from over running the range again as they did in former days."

List of persons contributing information for this write-up

Albert Welch	-	Adavan
Tom Adams	-	Adavan
Victor Gardner	-	Preston
Mrs. Santina R. Bordoli	-	Currant
Joseph Hafen	-	Currant