

Railroad round house in Dixon results in Frisco Hotel being built in 1876



The Frisco Hotel was built just south of the railroad tracks in 1876. Submitted

(Text Submitted by David Martin)

Around 1873, Dixon became a railroad division center and it is thought that Dixon Frisco Train Station/Depot was constructed after the Farmers' Cooperative Company was incorporated on May 7, 1921, with David H. Martin's grandfather, George W. Martin, being a charter member of the first board of directors. A round house for four engines and a residence for four freight and two passenger crews were located just south of the tracks and a short distance east of the station/depot. Also located south of the tracks was the Frisco Hotel which was built in 1876 by William H. Harris, who operated it until the round house moved to Newburg in 1884. The Harris family moved to Newburg with one of the Harris girls marrying into the Houston family and both families being actively involved in the founding and operation of the Houston House in Newburg, which was known for their accommodations and delicious family style meals of fried chicken, country ham, homemade biscuits, and all the fixings. The last surviving member of the family, Frances Houston, can still be remembered, by David Martin, serving tables and carrying tins of hot fresh biscuits with the tail of her long apron well into the late 80's in the 1960's and the restaurant never being the same following her death.

House built in 1904 still standing



Rollins Home when first built in 1904. The storage house and cellar is shown at the right. The home still stands across from the Methodist Church at the corner of Second and Pine Streets. Submitted



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