

Some things never change...

... like stories about gasoline prices and supply. The first picture shows the gas lines in Granite Falls during World War I.

Bernard Ashe (one of three Ashe brothers involved in automobile service stations in Granite) said of this event:

"The excuses in those days wasn't the energy crises or an Arab embargo. The oil companies rationalized the lack of gasoline for civilians as a necessary sacrifice to bring the troops home from Europe. As I recall we were selling it for 18 cents a gallon. When the gas got plentiful the price went up to 31 cents a gallon, the dealers were getting two cents instead of four cents a gallon - and they were still bringing the boys home!"

The Ashe Brothers first opened City Cyclery on West Stanley St, where their signs indicating they hosted the stage stop and sold Model T Fords, Excelsior motorcycles, and other items.

They later moved into the building on South Granite that is now our fire station, where they hosted the long gas lines.

In 1926, they built a new building in their original location on Stanley St., opening it as the Monte Cristo Service Station.

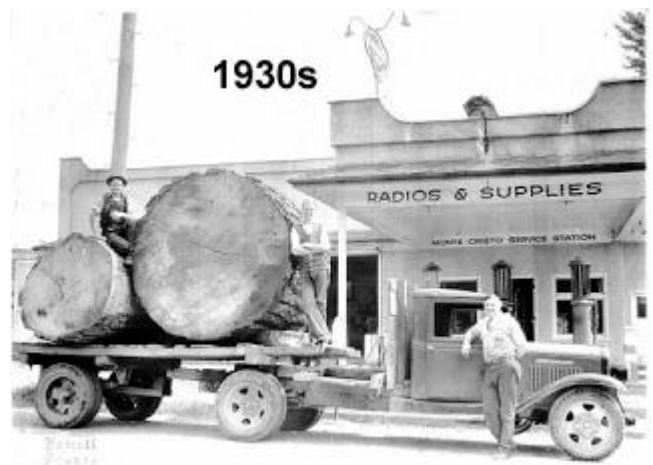
The newspaper in May 1926 described it as "a service station of the Spanish Mission type, stuccoed in gray with green trimming, 2700 feet of floor space, three filling pumps, and ample room for giving prompt and efficient service. The people of this community should and are justly proud to boast a super service station, the like of which any city would be justly proud of."



During World War I, gas was rationed to ensure U.S. troops fighting in Europe had all the fuel they needed. Ashe Brothers customers lined up at the Granite St. service station.



Ashe Brothers first shop was City Cyclery on Stanley St. It was a stop for the auto stage and sold motorcycles and cars.



By 1930, the Ashe Brothers were back on Stanley St. with gasoline, radios, and car parts. Today, the building is Mark's Country Store.

