

Dave Lewis and Harry Shellworth at the Lewis homestead, 1926.

"COUGAR" DAVE LEWIS AN IDAHO FRONTIERSMAN



Dave Lewis (left) with Jess Taylor (right) at Soldier Bar monument, close to the time of the sale of the "Lewis Place" in 1935 for



The original Lewis cabin.



The "Lewis Place," pre-World War II



Taylor Ranch, 2008



Dave Lewis in front of his blacksmith forge, now "Arlow's Cabin."



"You know it has always been a mystery to me how all the people you see in a big city like Boise make a living," said David Lewis, pioneer trapper of Idaho who came to Boise Tuesday night after an absence of 44 years." -Idaho Statesman, 1922



"Congar' Dave Lewis, who lives over in Middle fork country, took out and was paid bounty on 12 cougar, 1 bear and a coyote, \$64..." —Warren Times, April 20, 1888



"Last fall he [Lewis] complained that the country was settling up too fast. 'A man don't have no privacy no more, he told his nearest neighbor—five miles away." —Idaho Statesman, 1936



Present Dave Lewis cabin (lodge), looking north towards Sheep Creek, previously Impossible Creek now Cliff Creek.

(L-R): Idaho Governor H. Clarence Baldridge, Dave Lewis, and District Forester R.H. Rutledge at the Soldier Bar monument for Private Harry Eagan, friend of Lewis and the sole U.S. Army fatality of the Sheepeater Campaign.





"He is an honorable man and a gentleman and everyone loves 'Uncle Dave,' a man just in his dealings, fearless when it comes to standing for the things he considers right, but with it all as gently as a woman and kind. He sits his saddle like Robt. E. Lee and looks every inch the soldier he is."—Warren Times, September 25th, 1913.



Dave Lewis at Soldier Bar with his nearest neighbors, Jean and "Blackie" Wallace of Cabin Creek.



"He was told that the many offices of the city provided employment for the city's inhabitants to which he answered that his office for the past 50 years had been the wild forests and his living has been the wild animals inhabiting his office."—Idaho Statesman, 1922



District Forester R.H. Rutledge throws a diamond hitch as Dave Lewis looks on (far right).



"His mountaineer associates will claim that it was a sudden dose of civilization that took Congar Dave. The thickets and valleys were his doorstep and the mountains his attic...his philosophy was one of simplicity marked by lack of contact with economics, theories of government and culture."—Warren Times, June 25, 1936.